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THE
Topsfield
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OF THE
TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

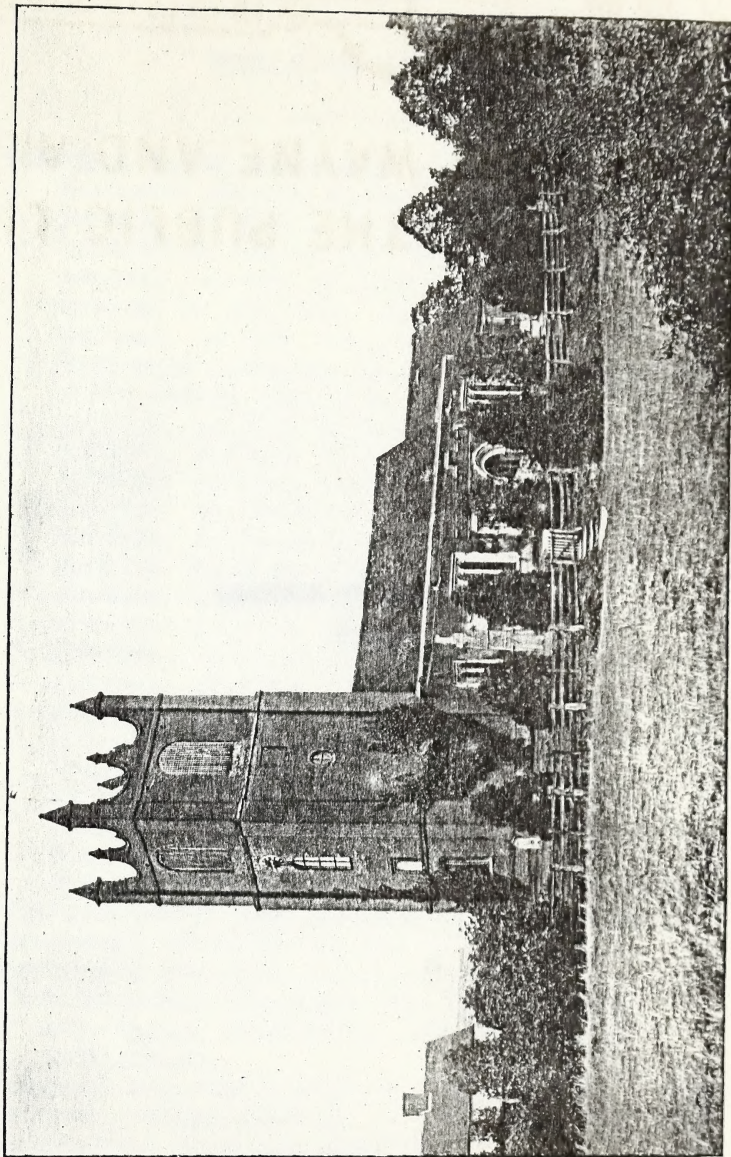
V. 6-7
VOL. VI.

1900.-01

TOPSFIELD, MASS.:
Published by the Society.

1900.

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ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, TOPPESFIELD, ENGLAND.

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,
Editor.

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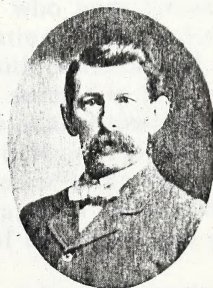
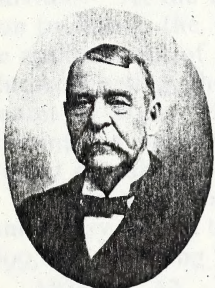
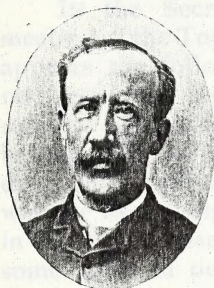
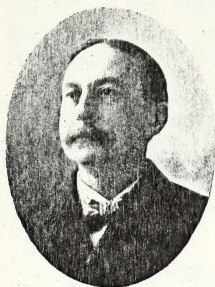
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THE
CELEBRATION
OF THE
Two Hundred and fiftieth Anniversary
OF THE INCORPORATION
OF THE TOWN OF
TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS,
AUGUST 16--17, 1900.



GILBERT B. BALCH.
ALPHONSO T. MERRILL,
Secretary.
ALBERT A. CONANT.

GEORGE F. AVERELL.
GEORGE FRANCIS DOW,
Chairman.
WELLINGTON DONALDSON.

DUDLEY BRADSTREET.
JOSEPH BAILEY POOR,
Treasurer.
ALBERT M. DODGE.

PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

IN the Secretary's report, presented at the annual meeting of the Topsfield Historical Society, held Jan. 6, 1899, appears the following paragraph:—"But this Society must not rest upon its oars and drift with the tide, for in the rapidly approaching year, nineteen hundred, must be celebrated, with all the pomp and honor possible, the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of our town, which was the twenty-eighth in the list of settlements incorporated in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. We should all take wholesome pride in our honorable record as a town, and make every effort to crown our natal day with a round of becoming festivities. At the annual town meeting it will be none too soon to discuss the question of 'ways and means', and even the appointment of a committee having power to outline, at a future meeting, the exercises of the day, and to submit estimates of cost. He who goes forewarned goes armed at all points; a consideration of the matter in ample season may prevent mistakes of both omission and commission."

Public sentiment seemed to favor the observance of the anniversary, and at the annual town meeting, held March 13, 1899, the following article appeared in the warrant.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will take any action relating to the observance in 1900, of the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the Town, and pass any vote or votes relating thereto.

Under this article, after a short discussion, it was

VOTED, that the Moderator appoint a Committee of five, to retire and nominate a Committee of twelve, who should

report at the next annual town meeting a plan for the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Topsfield. The Committee was appointed as follows:—George Francis Dow, Albert A. Conant, J. Arthur Lamson, Charles J. Peabody and Albert M. Dodge, and a little later it reported the following

COMMITTEE ON ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

Justin Allen, M. D.*	Albert M. Dodge.
Joseph B. Poor.	Baxter P. Pike.
Benjamin P. Edwards.	Rev. Francis A. Poole.†
Charles J. Peabody.	Alphonso T. Merrill.
Albert A. Conant.	Henry H. Roberts.
J. Arthur Lamson.	George Francis Dow.

The Committee organized by the choice of George Francis Dow, Chairman, and Alphonso T. Merrill, Secretary, and at the annual town meeting held March 5, 1900, reported the following recommendations.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

I. That the celebration be held during the month of August.

II. That a historical sermon be delivered in the Congregational Church on the Sunday next preceding the day of the celebration.

III. That bonfires be lighted on the hills at eight o'clock, on the evening preceding the day of the anniversary.

IV. That the church and school bells be rung at sunrise.

V. That a military, civic and trades procession be one of the features of the day.

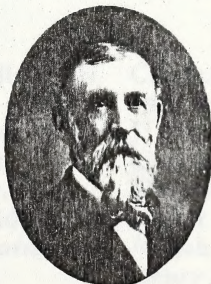
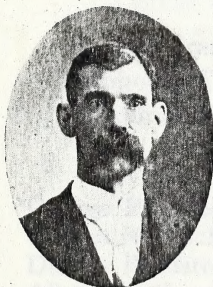
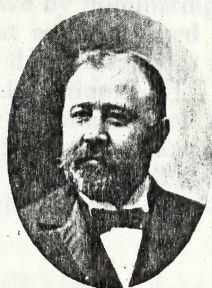
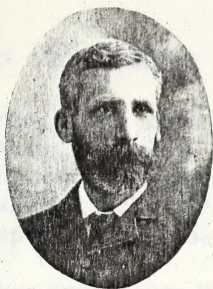
VI. That historical and literary exercises be held on the Centre School grounds.‡

VII. That dinner be served in a tent located on the Common, and short speeches be delivered, interspersed with music. Dinner tickets to be provided for invited guests, and sold to others at one dollar each.

*Declined to serve.

†Removed from town.

‡It was afterwards decided to have the literary exercises in a tent located on the Common.



GEORGE L. GOULD.

WILLIAM H. HERRICK

C. FRED JORDAN.

BENJAMIN P. EDWARDS.

J. ARTHUR LAMSON.

GEORGE R. GRANTHAM.

THOMAS L. JENKINS, M. D.

PAUL R. KIMBALL.

VIII. That athletic games and sports be held on the Common, beginning at two o'clock, P. M.

IX. That a band concert be given on the Common at four o'clock, P. M., and eight o'clock, P. M.

X. That a reception or ball be given in the Town Hall in the evening.

XI. That the town appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars and that an additional amount be raised by subscription.

The report was accepted and adopted by the Town and the Committee were instructed to increase their number to twenty-five by nominating fifteen others and to report their doings at an adjourned town meeting. The sum of six hundred dollars was also appropriated to meet the expenses of the celebration.

The Committee of Arrangements, as finally organized, consisted of the following persons, upon whom devolved the duty of making all the preparations for a suitable observance of the anniversary:—

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

George Francis Dow, - - - *Chairman.*

Alphonso T. Merrill, - - - - *Secretary.*

Joseph B. Poor, - - - - - *Treasurer.*

George F. Averell.

Gilbert B. Balch.

Dudley Bradstreet.

Albert A. Conant.

Albert M. Dodge.

Wellington Donaldson.

Benjamin P. Edwards.

George L. Gould.

George R. Grantham.

William H. Herrick.

Thomas L. Jenkins, M. D.

Charles F. Jordan.

Paul R. Kimball.

J. Arthur Lamson.

Charles J. Peabody.

Thomas W. Peirce.

Baxter P. Pike.

Abijah B. Richardson.

Henry H. Roberts.

Charles I. Trowbridge.

Eugene L. Wildes.

Isaac M. Woodbury.

The members of the Committee were thoroughly interested and frequent meetings were held. Rev. George I. Perkins of Gloucester, a native of Topsfield, was chosen President of the Day, and Thomas W. Peirce was elected Chief Marshal. Congressman William H. Moody of Haverhill accepted the invitation to deliver the oration, and Representative George Francis Dow was chosen to deliver the historical address.

The incorporation of the Town occurred Oct. 16, or 18 1650. The actual anniversary date coming too late in the season for an out-of-door celebration, the Committee decided upon Thursday, August the sixteenth, as Anniversary Day thereby following the precedent established at the Bicentennial in 1850, which was observed in the month of August.

Invitations to attend the celebration were sent to distinguished persons. The list of invited guests included the State officials, natives of the Town who had acquired eminence in other places, the principal town officers of adjoining towns ex-selectmen of Topsfield, and others.

The following sub-committees were also appointed:—

PUBLICITY AND PRINTING.—Alphonso T. Merrill, *Chairman*, Gilbert B. Balch, George Francis Dow, George L. Gould, George R. Grantham.

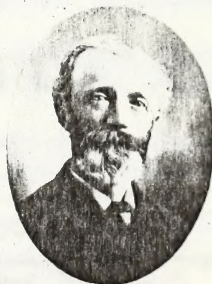
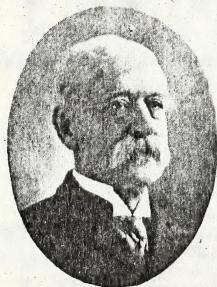
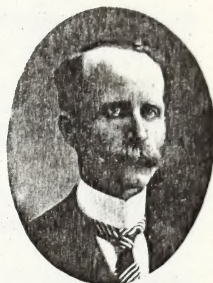
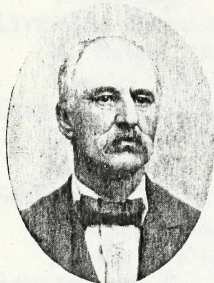
INVITATION AND RECEPTION.—George Francis Dow, *Chairman*, Albert A. Conant, Benjamin P. Edwards, George L. Gould, Thomas L. Jenkins, M. D., Thomas W. Peirce, Baxter P. Pike, Joseph B. Poor.

SUNDAY EXERCISES.—Charles J. Peabody, *Chairman*, Albert M. Dodge, Benjamin P. Edwards, Charles F. Jordan, Eugene L. Wildes.

BELL RINGING, BONFIRES, ETC.—Paul R. Kimball, *Chairman*, George F. Averell, Wellington Donaldson, Abijah B. Richardson, Eugene L. Wildes.

DECORATIONS AND ILLUMINATIONS.—Albert A. Conant, *Chairman*, Benjamin P. Edwards, Abijah B. Richardson, Henry H. Roberts, Charles I. Trowbridge.

TRANSPORTATION AND CARRIAGES.—Charles I. Trowbridge, *Chairman*, George L. Gould, Charles F. Jordan, Thomas W. Peirce, Joseph B. Poor, Isaac M. Woodbury.



CHARLES J. PEABODY.

THOMAS W. PEIRCE.

ABIJAH B. RICHARDSON.

CHARLES I. TROWBRIDGE.

ISAAC M. WOODBURY.

BAXTER P. PIKE.

HENRY H. ROBERTS.

EUGENE L. WILDES.

GRAND STAND AND BAND STAND.—Henry H. Roberts, *Chairman*, George F. Averell, J. Arthur Lamson, Baxter P. Pike, Abijah B. Richardson.

PARADE, MILITARY AND POLICE.—William H. Herrick, *Chairman*, Albert A. Conant, George Francis Dow, George R. Grantham, Thomas L. Jenkins, M. D., Charles F. Jordan, Paul R. Kimball, Alphonso T. Merrill, Thomas W. Peirce, Isaac M. Woodbury.

MUSIC.—Albert M. Dodge, *Chairman*, Albert A. Conant, Alphonso T. Merrill, Henry H. Roberts, Charles I. Trowbridge.

LITERARY EXERCISES.—Baxter P. Pike, *Chairman*, Gilbert B. Balch, Dudley Bradstreet, George Francis Dow, Charles J. Peabody, Joseph B. Poor.

DINNER.—Eugene L. Wildes, *Chairman*, Gilbert B. Balch, Wellington Donaldson, J. Arthur Lamson, Isaac M. Woodbury.

SCHOOLS.—Wellington Donaldson, *Chairman*, George F. Averell, Benjamin P. Edwards, Charles J. Peabody, Joseph B. Poor.

SPORTS AND RACES.—Thomas W. Peirce, *Chairman*, Albert M. Dodge, William H. Herrick, Thomas L. Jenkins, M. D., Paul R. Kimball.

RELICS AND LOAN EXHIBITION.—Dudley Bradstreet, *Chairman*, George Francis Dow, J. Arthur Lamson, Charles J. Peabody.

BALL.—Thomas L. Jenkins, M. D., *Chairman*, George Francis Dow, Paul R. Kimball, Alphonso T. Merrill, George R. Grantham.

CONTRIBUTIONS.—Joseph B. Poor, *Chairman*, Dudley Bradstreet, Albert A. Conant, George Francis Dow, George L. Gould, George R. Grantham, William H. Herrick.

RECEPTION OF THE GOVERNOR.—Albert A. Conant, *Chairman*, Gilbert B. Balch, George L. Gould.

The Committee on Contributions met with great success in soliciting subscriptions. Interest in the celebration increased as the day approached, and with a treasury liberally supplied with funds and the hearty coöperation of citizens, nothing but favorable weather seemed wanting to make the anniversary occasion a complete success.



*The Town of Topsfield extends to you
a cordial invitation to be present, as its guest, at
the exercises, commemorative of the Two Hundred
and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Incorporation of
the Town, to be held on Thursday, August 16th,
nineteen hundred.*

*Your early acceptance is respectfully requested
that final arrangements may be completed.*

Very truly yours,

George Francis Dow,

Chairman of Anniversary Committee.

ORDER OF SERVICE
ORGAN VOLUNTARY

RELIGIOUS SERVICE AT THE CON-
GREGATIONAL CHURCH, SUNDAY,
AUGUST TWELFTH, NINETEEN HUN-
DRED, IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CELEBRATION OF THE TWO HUN-
DRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF TOPSFIELD, MASSACHU-
SETTS.



ORDER OF SERVICE.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY,

MRS. FRANK E. MOYNAHAN,
of Danvers, Mass.

VIOLIN SOLO, "Romance," Svendeen.

MISS LENA TROWBRIDGE,
of Melrose, Mass.

ANTHEM, "Ye that stand in the house of the Lord,"*
Spinney.

INVOCATION,

REV. WILLIAM N. ROBERTS,
Pastor of the Methodist Church.

HYMN, "O God, our help in ages past," Tune: "York."

RESPONSIVE READING, Selected.

REV. HERBERT J. WYCKOFF,
Pastor of the Congregational Church.

ANTHEM, "The Heavenly Song."* Gray.

PRAYER,

REV. FRANCIS A. POOLE,
of East Weymouth Mass.

*Sung by a chorus of fifty voices directed by Mrs. Genie Fuller Kimball.

DUET, "Tarry with me O my Saviour,"

Nicolai.

MRS. GENIE FULLER KIMBALL,
MR. EDWARD W. MERRILL.

ORIGINAL HYMN,

Tune: "St. Martin's."

God of our fathers! we adore
The grace which led them here,
To build an altar to thy name,
And worship in thy fear.

We thank thee for the fathers' deeds
Inscribed on history's page;
We thank thee for their earnest faith,
Our goodly heritage.

Built on thine everlasting truth,
Sustained by love divine,
This ancient church has held its way
Through all the storms of time.

God of our fathers! lead us on
Through all the years to come;
And with the ransomed throng at last
Gather us safely home.

Mrs. Ada B. Dow.

SCRIPTURE LESSON,

Deuteronomy, VIII, 1-20.

REV. HERBERT J. WYCKOFF.

TOPSFIELD. C. M.

JACOB KIMBALL, 1793. *

1. Lo! what an en - ter - tain - ing sight Are breth - ren who a - gree;
 2. 'Tis like the oil, di - vine - ly sweet, On Aa - ron's rev - 'rend head;

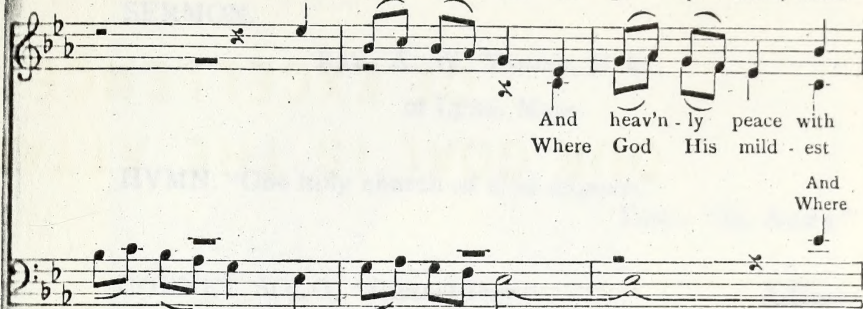
Whose hands with cheerful hearts u - nite In bonds of pi - e - ty.
 The trick - ling drops per - fumed his feet, And o'er his gar - ments spread.

When streams of love, from Christ the spring, Descend to ev - 'ry soul;
 'Tis pleas - ant as the morn - ing dews, That fall on Zi - on's hill;

And
Where

*Jacob Kimball was born in Topsfield in 1760, graduated at Harvard College in 1780, and died July 24, 1826. Musician and composer. Author of Rural Harmony; Essex Harmony; etc.

And heav'n - ly peace with balm - y wing, And
Where God His mild - est glo - ry shews, Where



And heav'n - ly peace with
Where God His mild - est

And
Where

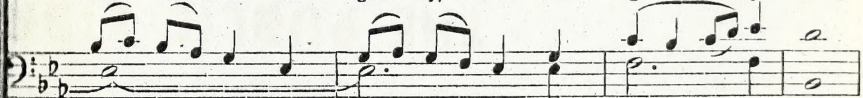
heav'n - ly peace with balm - y wing,
God His mild - est glo - ry shews,

heav'n - ly peace with balm - - - - - y wing,
God His mild - est glo - - - - - ry shews,

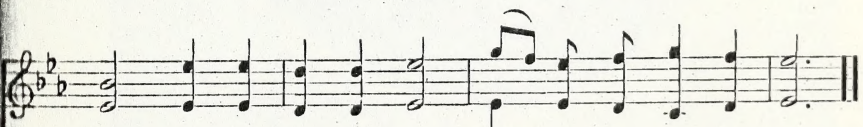


balm - y wing, with balm - - - - - y wing,
glo - ry, mild - est glo - - - - - ry shews,

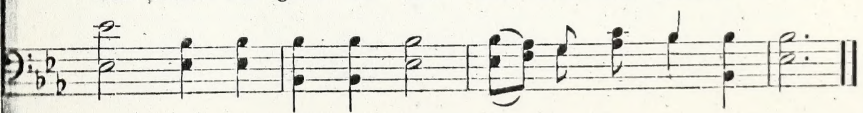
heav'n - ly peace with balm - y wing, with balm - y wing,
God His mild - est glo - ry, mild - est glo - ry shews,



. with balm - - y wing,
His glo - - ry shews,



Shades and be - dews the whole, Shades and be - dews the whole.
And makes His grace dis - till, And makes His grace dis - till.



SERMON,

REV. A. W. MOORE, D. D.,
of Lynn, Mass.

HYMN, "One holy church of God appears,"

Tune: "St. Ann's."

CORNET SOLO, "Eternal Day,"

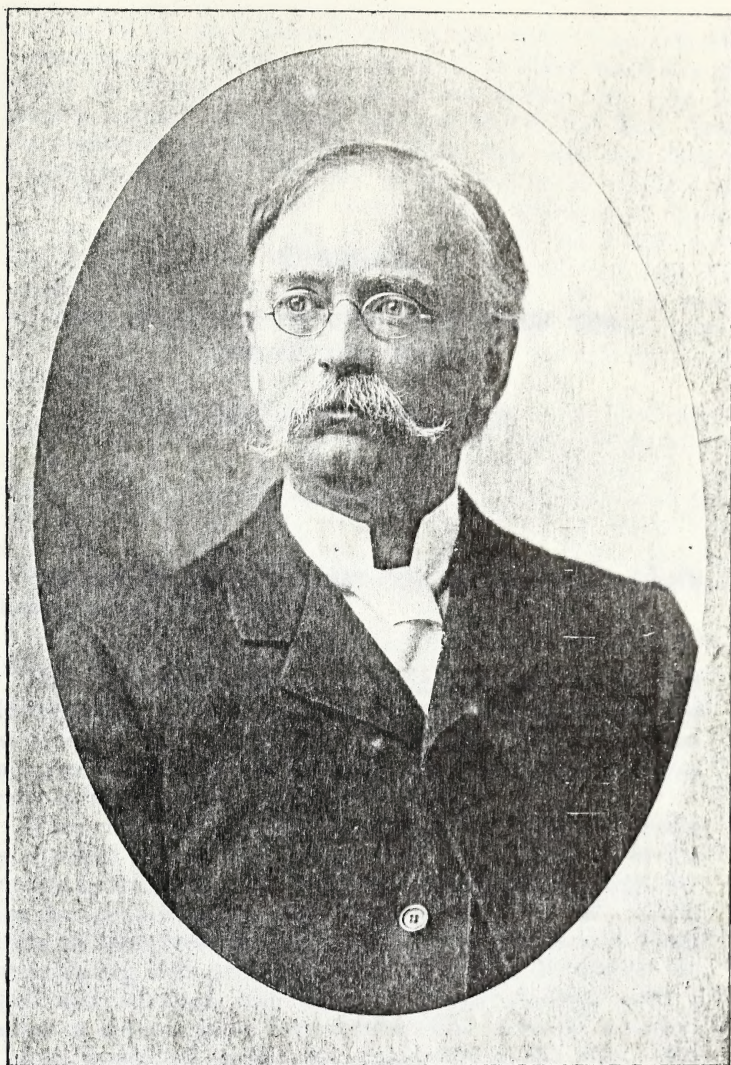
Adams

MR. CHARLES H. KNEELAND,
of Beverly, Mass.

BENEDICTION,

REV. JAMES H. FITTS,
of Newfields, N. H.

ORGAN POSTLUDE.



REV. A. W. MOORE, D. D.

SERMON.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE CHURCH ON THE LIFE OF THE TOWN.

BY REV. A. W. MOORE, D. D.

"Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."—*Psalms 127: 1.*

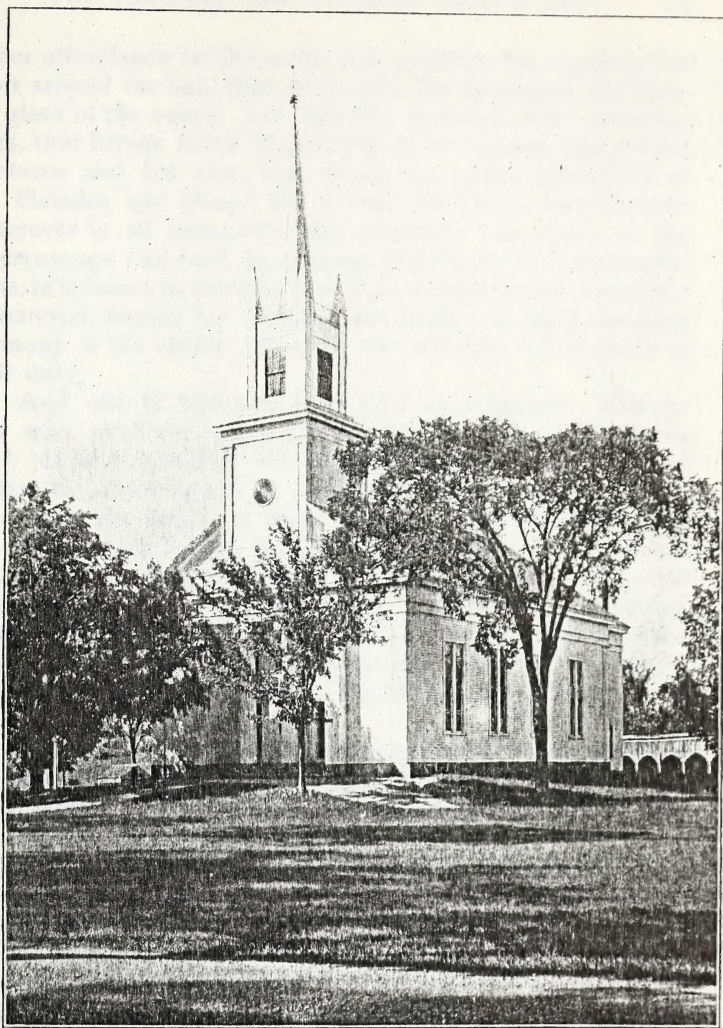
The Hebrew Prophet was remarkable for depth and boldness. He looked beneath the surface of things, and possessed the courage of his convictions. His inspiration penetrated far into the realm of hidden causes, and he never shrank from revealing what he saw there.

If we could be sure that the title prefixed to this psalm was attached to it at the outset and that we have in it a veritable hymn of the time of Solomon we might, perhaps, imagine the circumstances which gave birth to it. We might picture to ourselves the most opulent of the Jewish kings contemplating with pride the great city which he had so enriched and adorned, but with his pride overcast with a shadow of sadness as he remembered that material prosperity alone would not ensure the perpetuity of the city. But if, as the critics hold, the psalm is to be classed with those which were composed after the return of the exiles from the Babylonian captivity, we may still find in it a reminiscence of the golden epoch I have just mentioned. As its author

contrasted the magnificent temple of that earlier time with the comparatively humble and mean structure which had taken its place, the abundant inhabitants of the former city with its present scanty population, the fact that it had been then the capital of an independent nation but was now only a helpless tributary to a Gentile power, and as he recalled to mind that this mortifying change was a fulfilment of countless prophecies, the sequel to the warnings which had been thundered over and over again by the men of God into the heedless ears of a recreant people, it would not have been strange if his emotions had found expression in that sentiment which has since become proverbial, "Except the Lord keep the city the watchman waketh but in vain."

The history of this people had given a new illustration of the truth suggested by the last of Israel's greatest prophets in the words: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." The psalmist implies that no social organization has in it the element of continuance unless it is built on a religious foundation, a truth which very naturally associates itself with the subject on which I have been invited to address you.

The ultimate causes of all material phenomena are immaterial. The beginnings of all visible things are invisible. The planet on which we live and all the stars which spangle the heavens have been evolved into their present shape and condition through the agency of forces that are beyond human comprehension. The various forms of organic life have been developed into their present state of complexity and efficiency by influences which can be named but cannot be understood. Ever since men began to investigate and reason they have been asking for some comprehensive fact which would reconcile the seeming antagonisms of nature. But not until Newton expounded the law of gravitation did they approximate to success. Then they learned that it is one and the same force which brings the autumn leaf fluttering to the ground and lifts the morning mists into the sky, that unyokes the fury of the destroying hurricane and moistens the earth with the soft patter of the summer shower, that covers the inland marshes with the silent tides and brings the torrent roaring down the mountain side, that keeps the moon



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

in her attendance on the earth and confines the earth to her orbit around the sun, that sends into the firmament the baleful glare of the comet and fills the heavens with shooting stars, that brings forth Mazzaroth in his season and guides Arcturus and his sons, that binds the sweet influences of the Pleiades and clasps the golden buckle of Orion's belt. Wherever in all immensity the telescope can reach or the spectroscope can read, in nebulae, in galaxies or in constellations, in spheres, in wreaths, in spirals of golden dust, there this immaterial, unseen but omnipresent force is at work, keeping harmony in the visible universe and holding all its parts to their duty.

And woe to him who shall set it at defiance! Woe to him who shall not adjust his conduct to this all-pervasive law! If he is a builder the factory which he rears will be shaken to pieces by the jar of its own machinery and fall in ruins upon the heads of those within. If he is a shipwright the vessel which leaves his yard will founder in mid-ocean, and only a roaring maelstrom will mark the spot where she went down. If he is a balloonist he may tower in his pride of place till the clouds hide him from mortal view, but that same inevitable force will reach up after him, it will grapple him in the central blue and he will fall like Lucifer, never to rise again.

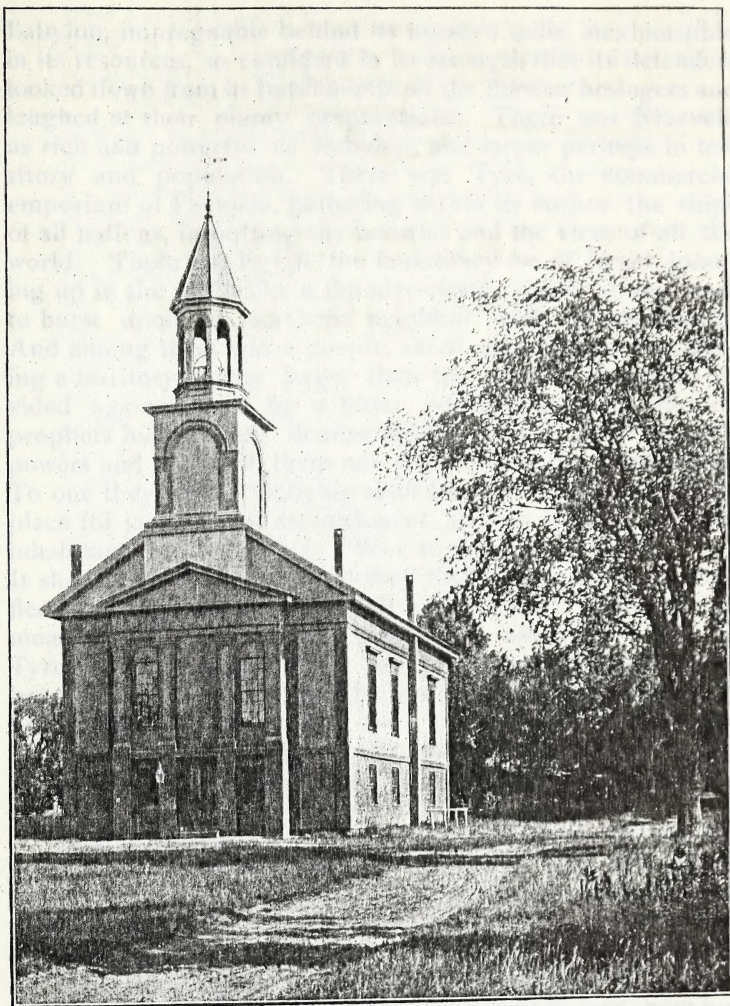
And men have ever been trying to find some supreme fact that will harmonize the apparent contradictions of the moral world. Under the same system of natural law the human frame is filled with the glow of health, and is stretched pale and emaciated on the bed of death; the home is gladdened by the prattle of merry children and darkened as one after another they are borne to the neighboring cemetery; war is unloosed which tramples into the mire the harvests of the husbandman and fills the land with widows and orphans, with helpless cripples and new-made graves, and out of the devastation arise, like beds of violets hiding the furrow of cannon-shot in the turf, temporal reforms and political improvements which bury, in time, the thought of its ruin under the memory of its resulting blessings. What is the ultimate cause of these seeming antagonisms, the supreme fact which will bring them into concord and agreement? The ancient

Hebrew answered: "It is a character, perfect in justice and holiness, consistent with itself whether it is producing joy or sorrow." And Jesus added: "It is myself; the life which I am living, the principles on which I am acting, represent the moral character of the universe. Blessed is he whosoever shall find none occasion of stumbling in me. Woe unto him who shall not reconcile his life to my own."

It was because the Hebrew seers had caught a clear glimpse of this fact that they launched their thunderbolts so confidently at the powerful but corrupt states which flourished on almost every side of them. What would be thought of a man who should take his stand in some valley among the White Mountains and predict their speedy overthrow, who should say to Mount Washington, "You have been weighed in the balances and found wanting;" to Mount Jefferson, "A decree of fate has gone forth against you, and you will soon be no more;" to Mount Jefferson and Mount Lafayette, "The time is not far distant when you shall be sought for and not found"—and should then turn his back upon them and wind his way in silent dignity to his home? What would be thought of him? Why the very echoes that came back to him out of a hundred mountain fastnesses would seem to mingle together in a laugh of derision.

But what would be thought of him if his prophetic utterances should begin to be fulfilled? if before a generation or a century or half a millennium had passed the mountains should disappear, one by a volcanic explosion that would shatter it to its foundation, another by a prodigious landslide that would leave a sudden gap in the horizon, a third by the slow erosion of subterranean streams that would hollow out an abyss beneath it? What would be thought of his predictions then? They would take on an aspect of grandeur in the minds of men; but it would be the grandeur of scientific knowledge. It would be said of him, "He was a geologist. His science had revealed to him the secret forces that were at work among those mountains, and his prophecies were but safe deductions from the law of cause and effect."

And there would be an analogy between these predictions and those of the Hebrew seer. All around him the horizon was notched with towering cities and kingdoms. There was



THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Babylon, impregnable behind its massive walls, inexhaustible in its resources, so confident in its strength that its defenders looked down from its battlements on the Persian besiegers and laughed at their pigmy preparations. There was Nineveh, as rich and powerful as Babylon, and larger perhaps in territory and population. There was Tyre, the commercial emporium of Phenicia, gathering within its harbor the ships of all nations, importing the luxuries and the vices of all the world. There was Egypt, the hereditary foe of Israel, looming up in the south like a thunder-cloud, liable at any time to burst upon its northern neighbor with a crash of ruin. And among them was a people, small in numbers, occupying a territory hardly larger than the state of Vermont, divided against itself by a bitter political schism. But its prophets hurled their denunciations against these Gentile powers and doomed them one after another to destruction. To one they said: "Babylon shall become heaps, a dwelling place for jackals, an astonishment, and an hissing, without inhabitant." To another: "Woe to the bloody city! . . . It shall come to pass that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her?" To a third: "Behold I am against thee, O Tyre . . . I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her a bare rock. She shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God." And of Egypt, "It shall be the basest of the kingdoms; neither shall it any more lift itself up above the nations."

The proceeding would have been ridiculous had not the event proved it to be sublime. As water runs in a trench that has been dug for it, so these prophetic words seemed to have made a furrow for destiny to flow in. Babylon and Nineveh are to-day but mounds of buried masonry, Tyre is an insignificant town, which is never mentioned in political circles or in commercial reports, and Egypt is even now but a helpless prey beneath the lion's paw. But the words of the prophets did not bring about these stupendous changes. Those profound seers had a clear vision of the destructive forces that were already at work in the moral and social life of the doomed states. They were not only great preachers,

they were the most far-seeing statesmen of their time. They knew that no organization could stand which was not in harmony with the invisible laws of the universe.

And it was the mission of the Hebrew nation to embody this fact in a practical government. It was called a theocracy, because whatever might be its form there was behind it a constitution which was believed to have been written by Jehovah himself. It was almost never without devoted men of God who interpreted the meaning of events and associated these with national acts of disobedience or of loyalty to the law of God. The return of the Babylonian captives was an effort to profit by these teachings and to establish the state anew on a religious foundation. The mission of John, the Baptist, was a final attempt in the same direction. The Pilgrims and the Puritans who first settled our New England shores, were carrying out a similar policy. And your own town began its existence under the influence of the same idea. At the very outset it provided for the preaching of the gospel in its midst, and for two hundred and fifty years it has kept itself in contact with religious truth.

It would be idle to attempt to specify the particular effects that have been produced on the development of your municipal life by the constant presence of the great facts for which the Christian church stands. Who can measure the various influences which have combined to form the American character—the words of the Declaration of Independence, the freedom of individual life, the geographical features of the country, its interminable rivers, its endless mountain chains, its boundless prairies, its fresh water oceans, its giant trees, its mighty Niagara—all of these things are sources of psychological influence; but who can separate their mental effects one from another and assign each accurately to its cause? And so it is with the church; its influence on the life of the town is real, but it is recondite, and evades all attempts at precise definition.

Even the empty meeting-house helps to educate the people near it—that unpretending, white structure so plain and simple in comparison with the more ornate styles of ecclesiastical architecture that are now prevalent, so appropriate to the times in which it was first built; outlined, as it

was, against the back-ground of the perpetual hills or against the evergreen of the primeval forest. Who can say how often the sight of it has uplifted the heart of some downcast wayfarer, how often its glittering spire has brought supernal light into some despondent mind? There is much complaint in our own time that our churches exert no influence save for a few hours on the Sabbath-day; but is that true? Does that shaft on Bunker Hill produce no educational effect because it has no mission but to be looked at? The patriotic beholder reads in it, written in letters of stone, the truth that the men of peace are not necessarily helpless against the tyranny of the men of war. Are the soldiers' monuments which adorn so many towns and villages without influence because they are forever silent? There is not one of them which is not repeating over and over again the poet's prophesy,

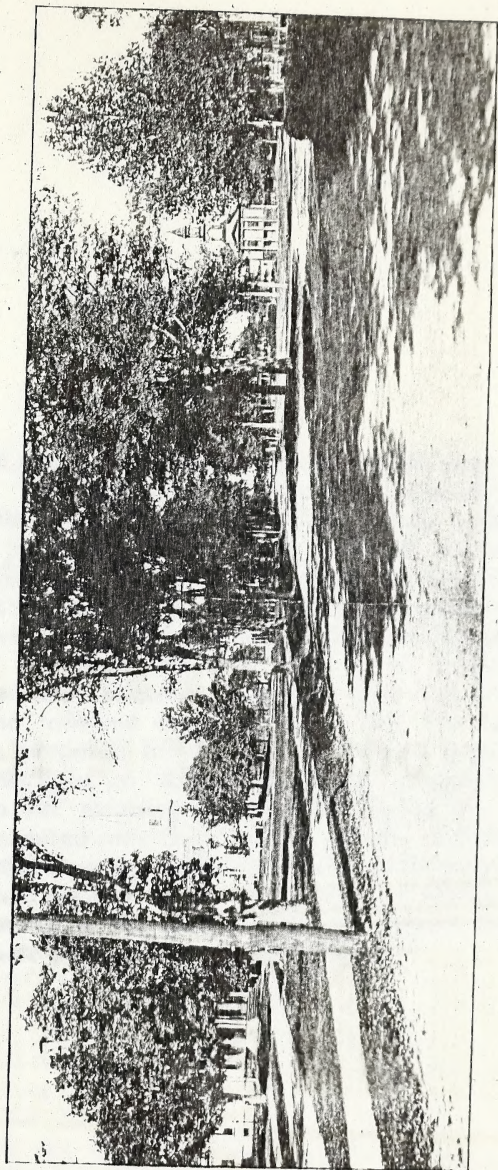
"In the hour of darkness and peril and need,
The people will waken and listen to hear
The hurrying hoof-beats of that steed,
And the midnight message of Paul Revere."

And so the country meeting-house has been associated with the manifold vicissitudes of human life. Its bell was the first to greet with a glad welcome the dawn of each national holiday. From its belfry clanged the wild signal that told of the conflagration. The same brazen throat counted off monotonously, by day and night, the swiftly passing hours, and mingled its solemn notes with the sobs of the funeral procession. And all the while that silent index-finger was pointing upward and teaching by an unchanging symbol that above all joy, all danger, all time and all sorrow there is One who holds all these things, and human life and destiny as well, in the hollow of his hand.

And how much larger must be the influence of the sublime truths with which the church is associated, which have flowed down upon the community from the religious services of two hundred and fifty years. They are behind your public and private charities. They are the source of the purity of your domestic life. They are the inspiration of whatever disposition you have to provide for coming generations ben-

effits in which you yourselves will have no share. Unrecognized and unthanked, they have doubtless inclined again and again the scales of your public deliberations on the side of justice and righteousness. They have furnished the force which has enabled you, times perhaps without number, to regulate your municipal life in the interests of public morals. They have removed from your cemetery its natural associations of terror and gloom, and, by the texts they have engraved on the tombs, have made it seem the vestibule of eternal life. Time is too short for high ambitions if it is ended at the grave. There is little encouragement for altruistic and self-sacrificing living if the opportunity is to end when the foundations of the new character are hardly laid. We must be large men if we are to do large things in our individual or civic capacity. The church has made men large by revealing to them grand truths which take away the limit of time from human action and put all moral achievements and success within our reach.

They who live in the neighborhood of a high mountain hardly realize how much they owe to it. Many of them do not stop to think that the fountains of clear water that are bubbling up all around them come from it, that the cool air which makes their climate so agreeable to the summer visitor has rolled down its sloping sides, that it has given momentum to the streams which move their machinery, that its summit has intercepted many a passing cloud and given it to them in the form of a grateful shower. And so it is with the church. It is the avenue by which the truths of God are brought down from their high sphere in order that they may add spiritual blessings to human souls. Hope, joy, faith, self-sacrifice, spring up in human hearts as a result of them. They lift up, at times most obviously, at times imperceptibly, the individual life, and by it the moral level of society as a whole. For the town is only an aggregation of units, and whatever serves to elevate any portion of these cannot fail to raise at the same time the average character of the whole.



THE COMMON.

THE CELEBRATION.

Very little rain fell during the summer of the year nineteen hundred. For nearly two months previous to the date selected for the anniversary celebration, hardly a shower moistened the parched ground. Then suddenly the clouds opened. On Sunday, August twelfth, when the anniversary religious exercises were held, a pouring rain deterred many from being present, although the Congregational Church was crowded with interested listeners. The three succeeding days were filled with alternate hours of hope and fear, as sickly sunshine followed drizzling rain. But few minds, however, were prepared for the dismal prospect presented by returning daylight on Anniversary Day. Beginning at four o'clock in the morning, the rain-fall during the next eight hours measured over three inches, and the consequent disappointment and sorrow will long remain in memory.

An excellent account of the celebration as finally carried out, appeared in the *Salem News* of August seven-teenth and is here printed in a condensed form.

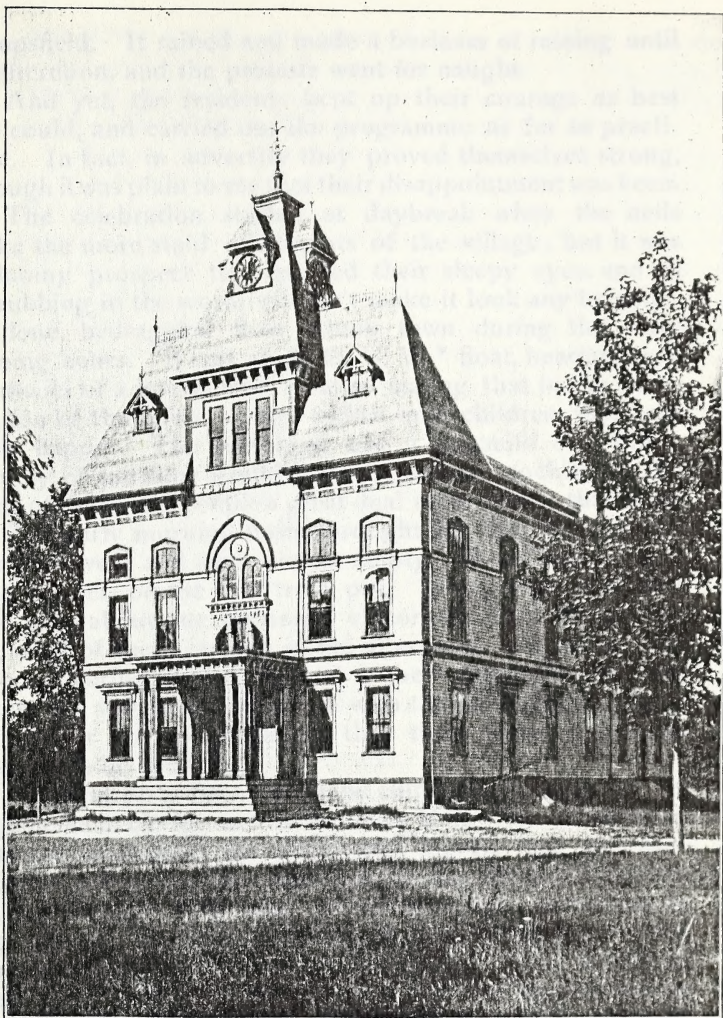
TOPSFIELD'S BIG DAY.

A SUCCESS DESPITE THE RAIN, COMPLETE STORY
OF THE CELEBRATION, ETC.

Well-laid plans of weeks, yea months, for the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the town of Topsfield, were knocked into a wet, bedraggled mass yesterday by the torrents of rain, which fell upon the heads of the just and unjust alike in that town. In fact it came near transforming the town of Topsfield back into its original name of "New Meadows," for the rain descended in such quantities that the streets and fields were as flooded as any meadows in spring. Although the rain was general throughout this section, it seemed harder at Topsfield.

For a long time the inhabitants of this beautiful old village have been preparing for the quarter millennial anniversary. Committees have met and arrangements have been made, with such good success that nothing remained to be done, but reap the harvest of their labors.

Early in the evening preceding, the clouds of Wednesday cleared away, and the stars twinkled as if in promise of a fair day for the morrow. Some of the older ones shook their heads and said mysterious things about the wind "backing in," or something like that, but the younger and more enthusiastic scouted the idea, and preparations went merrily on. The decorators worked far into the night, to finish their labors, but long before dawn it was apparent that their efforts would be futile, for the rain began coming down in torrents. Even during the early morning, a slight rift in the clouds was hailed as a sign that it was going to clear, but all signs fail in dog-days, and this was never more clearly proven than



THE TOWN HALL.

at Topsfield. It rained and made a business of raining until the afternoon, and the protests went for naught.

And yet, the residents kept up their courage as best they could, and carried out the programme as far as practicable. In fact, in adversity they proved themselves strong, although it was plain to see that their disappointment was keen.

The celebration started at daybreak when the bells awoke the more staid inhabitants of the village; but it was a gloomy prospect that greeted their sleepy eyes, and all the rubbing in the world wouldn't make it look any brighter. One lone, bedraggled float struck town during the early morning hours. It was an A. O. U. W.* float, bearing upon it a model of a house, and a motto stating that in the preservation of the home to the widow and children, they are made happy. The sentiment was a splendid one, but a little ray of sunshine would have warmed the cockles of the hearts of the towns-people a great deal more just at that time.

The early morning trains brought but slim crowds and later they went and came almost empty. Some balloon men came, but left on the first train out. It was estimated that there were about one thousand visitors in town during the day, most of these coming in the afternoon. Of those who did come earlier, many returned to their respective abiding places, wet and bedraggled, but with the most sincere regret and pity for the towns-people, that their labor of months should thus be spoiled.

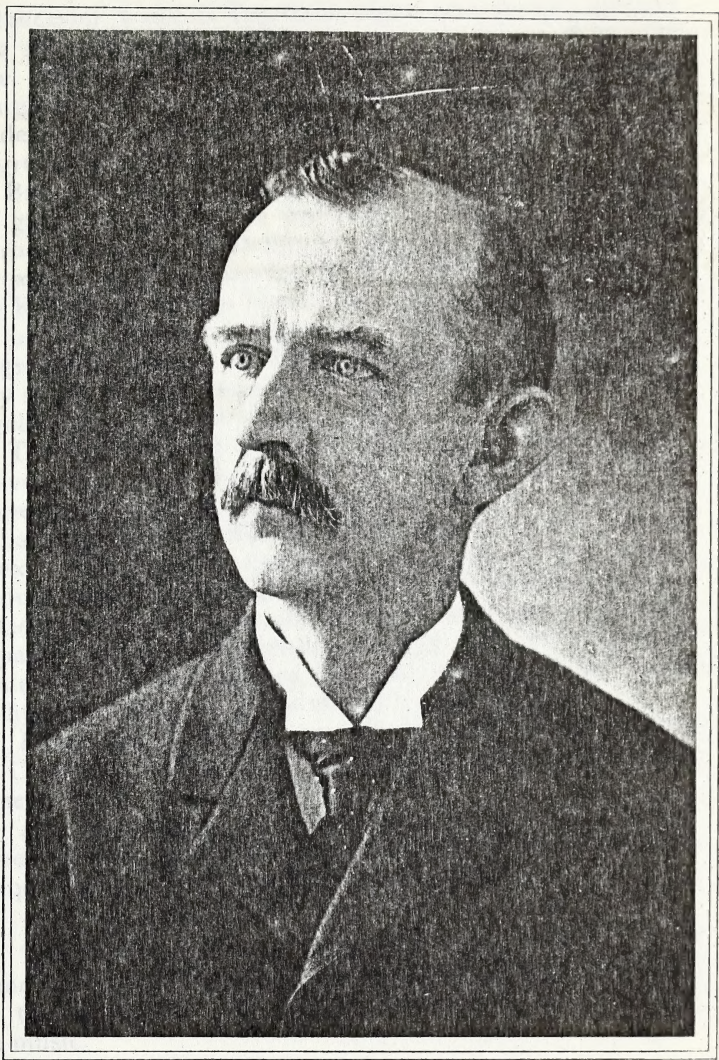
At eight forty-five o'clock the committee having the arrangements in charge met in the Town Hall. It was voted to postpone the parade, the field events, bicycle race and fireworks until the next day, but to have the literary exercises and the banquet with after dinner speeches, according to programme. The reporters were at once notified and they communicated with their respective papers. This doubtless saved many from going to the town with the hope of seeing the celebration. The *News* bulletined the postponement in Salem, Danvers and other towns. Word was also sent to the Salem Cadets at Boxford that the parade had been postponed. There was, however, a bright side to the day's events. Although the rain descended and the floods came,

*Ancient Order of United Workmen.

they didn't dampen one bit the literary exercises or the after-dinner speaking. Each speaker seemed to vie with the others in putting much spirit and energy into his remarks, to offset the gloomy, depressing atmosphere without.

At nine thirty o'clock the Reception Committee, consisting of Albert A. Conant, Gilbert B. Balch, and George L. Gould, with Representative George Francis Dow, went to the station to meet Governor Crane and his party. The train was late, but when it did arrive His Excellency was given as cordial a reception as the weather conditions would permit. There was a big crowd at the station, largely ladies, and every spot beneath cover was utilized as vantage ground from which to get a peep at His Excellency, as, clad in a black mackintosh and a silk hat, he passed along with the committee. With the governor were Lieut. Gov. Bates, Adj. Gen. Samuel Dalton, and Col. William H. Brigham of the Governor's staff, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Hon. George von L. Meyer, Col. W. A. Pew, Jr., of the Eighth regiment, Senator Guy W. Currier of Methuen, Senator A. P. Gardner of Hamilton, Gen. Francis H. Appleton, Representative Bennett B. Humphrey of Peabody, Mayor David M. Little of Salem, Hon. Robert S. Rantoul of Salem, Ex-Senator John D. H. Gauss, of Salem, Maj. George M. Whipple of Salem, and others. Congressman William H. Moody had come from Haverhill earlier in the morning. The guests were driven in carriages to the home of George Francis Dow, near by, where an informal reception was held, and a light collation served. Shortly before eleven o'clock carriages took the guests to the Congregational Church, where the literary exercises were held, instead of in the tent as originally planned. The change was a wise one, for the rain had soaked through the tent in some places, rendering it unserviceable.

Every seat in the church was occupied when the Governor and the invited guests arrived, and, as if to dampen the ardor of the speakers, just as they left the carriages, the flood gates seemed to open and fairly deluge the earth. But all of the speakers were present, and were not in the least affected by the rude reception of the Storm King. George Francis Dow, Chairman of the Anniversary Committee, introduced the President of the Day, Rev. George H. Perkins



GOVERNOR W. MURRAY CRANE.

of Gloucester, a son of Topsfield, whose introductory address was a splendid tribute to the claims and worth of his old home. Music by the Choro-militant band,* which remained throughout the day, followed, after which, the invocation was delivered by the Rev. Herbert J. Wyckoff, pastor of the Congregational Church.

Baxter P. Pike, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, then gave the address of welcome, it being received with vigorous applause. Seated in the organ loft, one hundred and fifty school children, directed by Mrs. Genie Fuller Kimball, sang Keller's American Hymn, a sweet and impressive rendition of this beautiful composition. This was followed by Congressman William H. Moody's oration. The old edifice fairly shook with the thunderous applause which greeted the magnificent production of this eloquent speaker.

The President of the Day then read a cablegram just received from Toppesfield, England. "Congratulations from Toppesfield," and the following response, "A daughter's cordial greeting," was flashed under seas to the old home in Essex. "To thee, O Country" was sung by the school children, and the exercises closed with the historical address by George Francis Dow, an intensely interesting, carefully prepared, and well delivered production, and the singing of "America," by the audience, the rich harmony of the grand old hymn swelling deep and strong toward Heaven.

Dinner was served at one o'clock, in the large tent on the Common. About four hundred and fifty people were present.

After the dinner, which was an unusually fine one and served by Dill, of Melrose, those who did not partake of the banquet were admitted to listen to the speaking.

* * * * *

The celebration was concluded in the evening by a grand ball in the Town Hall, which was elaborately decorated for the occasion. The Salem Cadet Orchestra furnished the music.

*Theron W. Perkins, the leader, a native of Topsfield.

LITERARY EXERCISES
AT THE
CELEBRATION OF THE 250th ANNIVERSARY
of the Incorporation of the Town of
TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS,
AUGUST 16, 1900.

ADDRESS.

REV. GEORGE H. PERKINS, OF GLOUCESTER, MASS.,
President of the Day.

MUSIC.

PERKINS' CHORO-MILITANT BAND.

INVOCATION.

REV. HERBERT J. WYCKOFF,
Pastor of the Congregational Church.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BAXTER P. PIKE,
Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

SINGING.

THE AMERICAN HYMN, - - - - - Keller.
Chorus of School Children, directed by Mrs. Genie Fuller Kimball.

ORATION.

CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM H. MOODY.

SINGING.

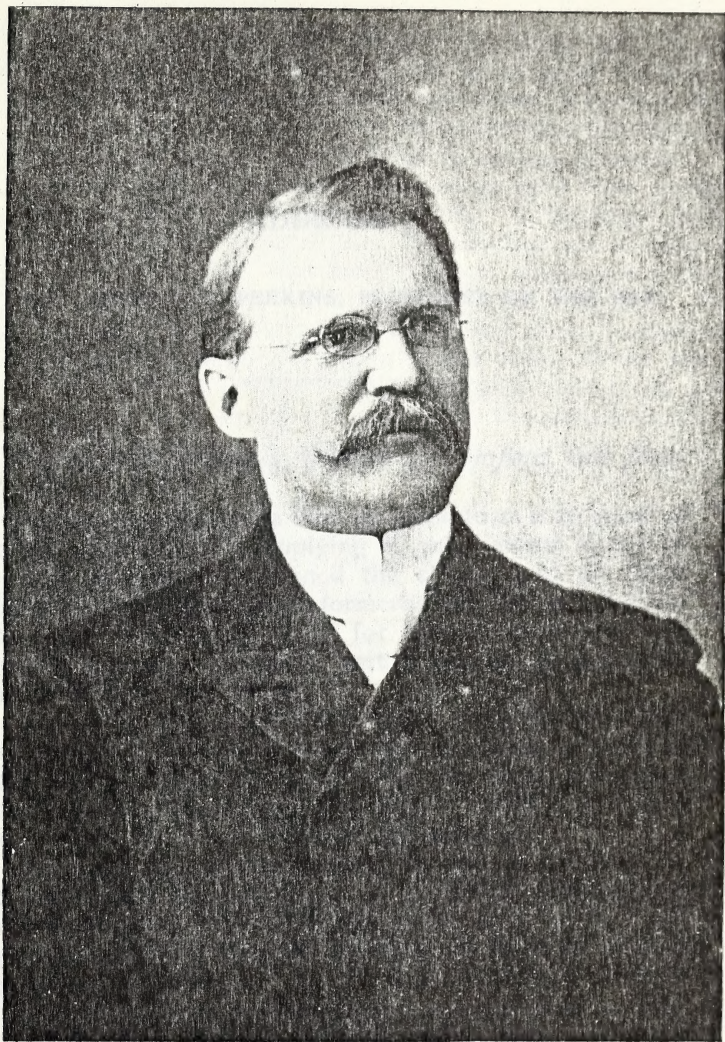
TO THEE, O COUNTRY, - - - - - Eichberg.
Chorus of School Children.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

AMERICA, - - - - - Smith.

The Audience is requested to rise and join with the Band
and School Children in singing the National Hymn.



REV. GEORGE H. PERKINS.

ADDRESS.

BY REV. GEORGE H. PERKINS, PRESIDENT OF THE DAY.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Citizens of Topsfield, and Honored Guests:—

The incorporation of a New England town is an event of no slight significance. Applying to the General Court, in due form, our fathers obtained the charter, and on these beautiful plains and hill-sides, formerly laid the foundations of this little community, which for two hundred and fifty years, has played an honorable part in the life of the commonwealth and of the nation.

We, the happy sons and daughters, are gathered to-day at the old town fireside, to exchange greetings, to recount history, and to rededicate ourselves to the great principles, political, social and religious, which have made Topsfield a pillar of strength in the temple of our republic.

We have no increasing population, and no growing industries, to excite our jubilations, or to awaken anticipations of future greatness. Topsfield has stood here in its rural simplicity, subject to changes, incident, chiefly to the general progress of the centuries. But the natural characteristics of the township, and our historic legacy, are sufficient to warrant a most joyful celebration of the event which so early gave Topsfield a place among New England towns.

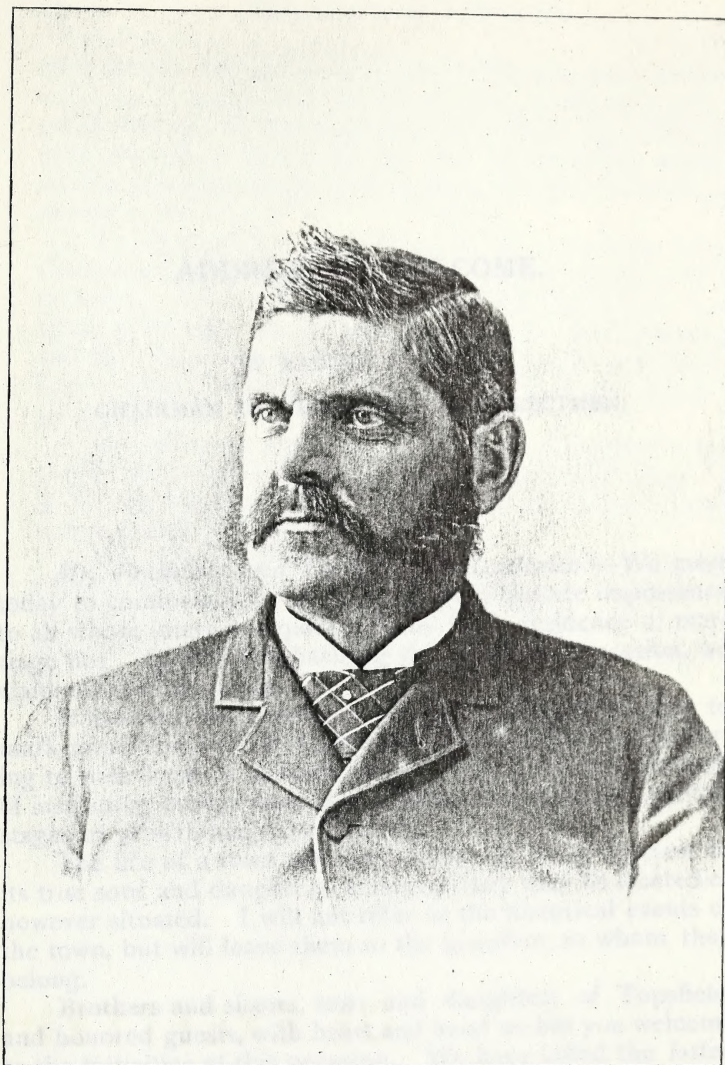
Beautiful for situation, it commands in view not only the charm of its own valley, but from the hill-top fields, it looks away inland, over billowy forests, to distant mountains, and

away sea-ward, over sister villages and lesser hills to the mother towns, where Salem's temple spires speak the faith of our fathers, and where the white sand dunes of Ipswich Bay glisten in the morning sun, and the crested seas that bore our sires from far off shores, still break in evening splendor.

The record of our home town, as we shall learn to-day, is a cause of just pride and of gratitude. It has been a home of Puritan virtues, of patriotism, of education and of religion. She has made noble contributions of her offspring to a thousand communities, and to every respectable vocation. She has reared sons who have honored all the learned professions, and magnified the higher offices of the land. While not a few have become eminent in industrial and commercial pursuits. She has held herself ready from the earliest days, for the call to arms, and made herself proud on fields of battle. Topsfield, the "New Meadows" of our primitive age, like the stream that flows through its mead, has continued to pour into the sea of humanity, some new life that has enlarged and enriched the world. The streams of influence from this fountain head of noblest virtues, have found their way not only into the state, but over-spreading the lands of the west and the south, and winding through various mountains and valleys, they now renew the earth upon our most distant borders. More than this, old Topsfield by her descendants of two hundred and fifty years, is to-day, a moral force in every great branch of the human family.

What is to be her future no seer has yet announced. May there not be a good providence in the preservation of this little section of country so nearly in its primitive state? Now so convenient to centres of population, and yet simple, rural, restful, healthful and beautiful. No great industries, but men of industry can rest here. No growing population, but quiet and virtue are here. These are great needs of mankind to-day.

Let Topsfield continue as it is,—a place of agricultural industry, and modest manufacturing interests; an increasingly residential community; Nature's retreat for weary bodies and tired brains; a home of virtue and a source of life for the nation, and fifty years hence it will be worthy of another celebration.



BAXTER P. PIKE.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BY BAXTER P. PIKE,

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen:—We meet today to commemorate an event of great historic importance to all whose interest is quickened by birth, residence or marriage ties. In thus emphasizing this particular occasion, we claim no special patent.

It has been the custom of all ages and races of men to mark important events in their histories by exercises flattering to their local or national pride. The mind is ever fond of instituting comparisons and passing in review, the various stages of growth and development.

The life of a town will never cease to be of interest to its true sons and daughters, wherever they may be located or however situated. I will not refer to the historical events of the town, but will leave them to the historian, to whom they belong.

Brothers and sisters, sons and daughters of Topsfield, and honored guests, with heart and hand we bid you welcome to the festivities of this occasion. We have killed the fatted calf, and with you would rejoice and make merry, not over the returning prodigal, but over the return of those sons and daughters, who by virtuous lives and noble deeds, have honored the town that gave them birth; and may we all be better for this day's festivities, our patriotism more ardent, our

faith deeper, and our lives purer for the emotions which the exercises of today shall stir in our breasts and long may the good old town of Topsfield (she has still the vigor and freshness of youth); long may she live to bless the world by raising sons and daughters to noble achievements in the great drama of life.

To all who have come from far or near, from long or short wanderings from the old hearth stone, you are one with us today. We thank you for the special honor you bestow upon us by your return and presence on this anniversary, and most heartily we thank you for the honor you have reflected upon Topsfield in your wide-spread fields of duty and service.

We bid friends and neighbors from adjoining towns a cordial welcome to the participation in this celebration. Fitly do you favor us today, since in the early history, Topsfield was part and parcel with you.

We welcome you to our hearts; we welcome you to our homes; and now, in behalf of the citizens of Topsfield, I welcome you, one and all, to the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Topsfield.



HON. WILLIAM H. MOODY.

ORATION.

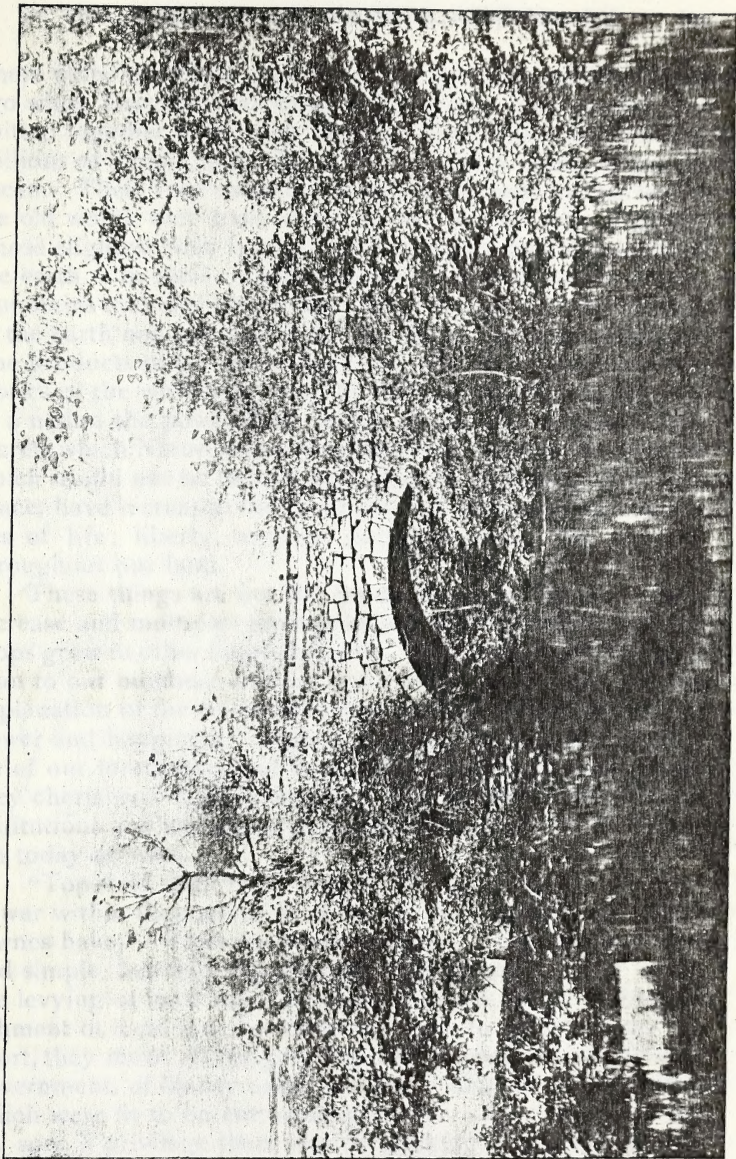
BY HON. WILLIAM H. MOODY.

I am glad to be here today. I prize the honor of taking part in these anniversary exercises and saying a few words which I hope may be in harmony with the spirit of the occasion. Few though the words be, it is not so easy to choose them. For many topics which are of the first interest are denied to me. It is not for me to recount the annals of your township, nor to recall to memory the half forgotten story of those who sleep in your ancient burial place; or who having gone hence, endowed with the sweet and strong and healthful spirit of the New England village, to play a part upon a wider stage, have won there the rewards of a life of achievement. These duties will be performed by the accomplished hands to which you have entrusted them.

Yet when these are done, it is not all. The difficulty comes not because the field for further speech is so narrow, but because it is so wide. So many familiar thoughts come thronging to the mind upon an occasion like this that it is hard to choose between them, and find those which are fitting for utterance within appropriate limits of time. The celebrations of these anniversaries which have become so frequent in the older parts of our country, arouse an interest which extends far beyond the borders of the communities in which they occur. The reason for this is not far to seek. The fathers lived their simple lives and went quietly to their last

resting places with no thought of their significance in the world's history, for it is not given to any, except the prophet and the seer, to understand the hidden meaning of his own time. But the secret is revealed. We understand today. We know now that in the scanty records of those early times we may read the prologue of a great world drama whose final acts are yet to come. "It is the foundation of an empire, and not merely the purchase and plantation of Agawam, which we commemorate,—whether we will or not; and I do not fear we shall enlarge our contemplations too far, or elevate them too high, for the service to which we have devoted this day." Thus spoke Rufus Choate sixty-six years ago this very day upon a like occasion in the town of Ipswich. And so it is now and here. While we reverently set down in minute detail the individual history of the town and its people, our thoughts are irresistibly drawn abroad to the great completed whole of which Topsfield is a part. True it is, that it is the foundation of an empire which we commemorate. Nations like material structures are built from below and not from above. If the foundation stones are not strong and sound the structure, whether it be a monument or a nation, will fall in ruins while it is still building, and if they become weak or rotten all that rests upon them is in peril. It is to Topsfield then as one of the foundation stones of the nation that as your representative in her Councils I bring her greetings today.

I do not speak thus with the purpose of magnifying your history, or flattering your sense of local pride, but because in sober truth it is of such as these that the enduring walls of the splendid temple of American liberty were constructed. It is of Topsfield as a type and not as an individual township that I like best to think and speak; a type not only of the sister communities in this ancient County and Commonwealth, but of those all over the land from Maine to California, where now the sons of your fathers look out from their distant western homes over the waters of the Pacific ocean. It is such communities as these which have developed a virgin territory into a powerful nation within the span of three centuries; the romance of recorded time. The picture is before us. The feeble and scattered settlements along our eastern seaboard,



THE STONE BRIDGE OVER THE IPSWICH RIVER

where alone the white man lived two hundred and fifty years ago when Topsfield was born, have grown and spread and knitted together until they contain more than seventy-five millions of people, inhabiting the continent from ocean to ocean. Their very existence unknown, except by the few in the old world, they have come to be in our day a nation whose slightest wish is heard with attention by the powers of the earth. In their resistless westward course across rivers, mountains and arid plains, they have delved into the bowels of the earth and brought forth her most precious treasures. The products of the mine, the farm, and the forest, and the fabrics of the work-shop and the factory, have brought to us as a nation the power that wealth alone can bestow. The secrets which Nature's unwilling breast has yielded to a search which would not be denied have almost annihilated time and space, have increased the comforts and multiplied the activities of life; liberty, security and respect for law prevails throughout our land.

These things are not the result of mere chance. Men increase and multiply, the sun shines, the rain falls, and the crops grow in other lands than this. We must look elsewhere than to our numbers and our natural resources alone for the explanation of the wonderful phenomenon of our growth in power and happiness. I think we may find it in the character of our forefathers and in the ideals and institutions which they cherished. Let us see if we can discern a few of these institutions and ask ourselves whether they are not as valuable today as ever.

"Topsfield shall from henceforth be a towne & have power within themselves to order all civil affayers as other townes have." Thus reads your charter. The words are few and simple, but their significance is profound. They mean the levying of local taxes by those who pay them; the establishment of local laws by those who are to obey them. In short, they mean all the privilege and burden of orderly self-government, of liberty under the law. Out of communities which were fit to be entrusted with such a burden and to enjoy such a privilege there was the making of a great nation. To them in their turn, as they rendered an account of their stewardship, the Lord of nations said "Well done thou good

and faithful servant ; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things."

If there be those who think that in the new lands across the seas now under our flag and jurisdiction, where power has always been exercised from above and never from below, the completed fabric of our institutions may be imposed in a day, I commend to them the study of the development of those institutions. Let them see that the lesson which was learned in the township taught us to construct a state and in turn a nation. Let them understand that the habit of self-government is of slow growth ; that it begins low down at the very foundations. For one if I could reconstruct the New England township in Porto Rico, Cuba and the Phillippines, I should expect under its beneficent influence to see in God's good time completed Commonwealths as free as our own and as independent as their people should deliberately will.

But self-government demands intelligence ; not the great learning of a few, but the common and ordinary education which may be shared by all. Our fathers forgot not this and an order of the General Court made in 1647 prescribed that every township of fifty householders should appoint one within their town to teach children to read and write, if need be at the public expense.

From such slight beginnings as this, and we may find the like in the early annals of all our States, has grown the wonderful system of public education which has fitted our people for the great task to which they have been appointed. We do not forget the lesson in these days. Cherishing this institution as we do no other, we are attempting to bestow it upon the millions of new people, who for the time at least are under our jurisdiction and control.

The school-houses which we are building in Porto Rico and the Cuban teachers whom we are entertaining at Cambridge, at the College founded by the early care of the fathers, attest our eager desire to share with others one of the secrets of our own strength.

One of the traits which appears most clearly in our history from the first is the constant and intense interest which the people took in the affairs of the government and in the

conduct of their public servants. If there came a great question to be decided by Colony, State, or Nation, it was no uncommon thing for the people to gather in their town-house, discuss it, and express by resolutions, the sentiments which they entertained. The fashion has passed away in our time, but I doubt not that well into the present century, the public opinion of New England in all great crises of our history, could be obtained by the historian from the records of our town meetings. That this particular fashion of expressing opinion no longer exists is not of importance, yet if it has perished through lack of interest in public affairs, and lack of attention to the conduct of the public servants, it bodes no good to the republic. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty and good government. The fate of a Democratic republic is threatened if the people concern themselves no longer with its affairs. I sometimes hear an impatience expressed with the frequency of elections and regrets for the weight of the burden of self-government. It takes from our occupation; it distracts our attention from business, we say. But I say to you that you have no business as important as the duties of citizenship. None which will pay you as well in the end. You have no right to be without opinion upon public questions. There is no greater public sin than the sin of indifference. We must watch the conduct of our public servants and be swift to condemn them if they are unfaithful, nor must we forget that there is no way in which we can more surely condemn and discourage unfaithfulness to public trust, than by applauding and encouraging fidelity.

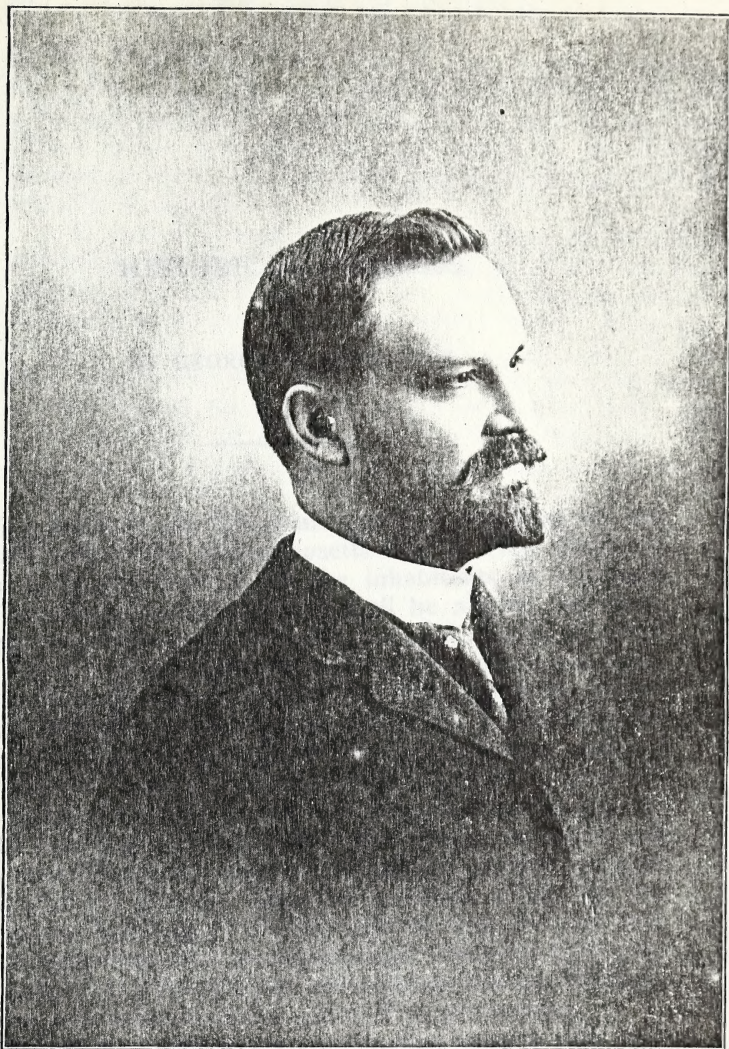
If time permitted, I should like to dwell upon other characteristics that our fathers exhibited. Their deep religious feeling; the "fierce spirit of liberty" which possessed them; and their ardent desire to establish fixed and equal laws suitable to their condition. The house of worship, the school-house, the town-house, and the court-house. They were held to be the guards and defenders of the State. They constitute the most precious inheritance which we have received from early times. We cannot in our time spare them. We must not neglect them. We must not be content to say "We are the salt of the earth," for it is written "If the salt have lost his savour wherewith shall it be salted. It is thence-

conduct of their public servants. If there came a great question to be decided by Cabinet, State, or Nation, it was no uncommon thing for the people to gather in their houses, discuss it, and express by resolution the sentiments which they expressed. The nation has passed away in our time, but I doubt not that well into the present century, the public opinion of New England in all great crises of our history, could be obtained by the historian from the records of our town meetings. That the particular fashion of expressing opinion no longer exists is not of importance, yet it has passed through lack of interest in public affairs and lack of attention to the conduct of the public servants, it hedges no good to the republic. Efficient vigilance is the price of liberty and good government. The line of a democratic republic is this: that the people concern themselves no longer with its affairs. I say things have an importance compared with the frequency of elections and regards for the weight of the burden of self-government. It takes from our occupation, it distracts our attention from business, we say that I say to you that you have no business as important as the duties of citizenship. Those which will pay you as well in the end. You have no right to be without opinion upon public questions. There is no greater public sin than the sin of indifference. We must watch the conduct of our public servants and be swift to condemn them if they are unfaithful. We must not forget that there is no way in which we can more surely condemn and discourage unfaithfulness in public trust than by applying and encouraging ability.

If I am permitted, I should like to dwell upon other characteristics that our fathers established. Their deep religious feeling; the "free spirit of liberty" which possessed them; and the orderliness to establish hard and equal laws suitable to their condition. The house of worship, the school house, the town hall, and the court-house. They were held to be the pillars and beams of the State. They constitute the most precious inheritance which we have received from our fathers. We cannot in our time spare them. We must not neglect them. We must not be content to say "We are the salt of the earth," for it is written, "If the salt have lost its savor, whither shall it be salted? It is thence-

forth good for nothing but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of man."

Let us not then be content with a mere recital of the events of the past which may satisfy the seeker for curious learning, nor with the commemoration of our dead which may fulfill the duty of filial piety, nor with the exhibition of the power, prosperity, and happiness of our county which may please and flatter a vain pride. Let us rather, by the fond contemplation of the past, seek to learn the duties of the present and the future, and inspired by the example of the fathers, resolve that the Republic shall receive no detriment in our day, and that our inheritance shall be transmitted unimpaired and enriched to the generations which shall dwell here when our day is done.



GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

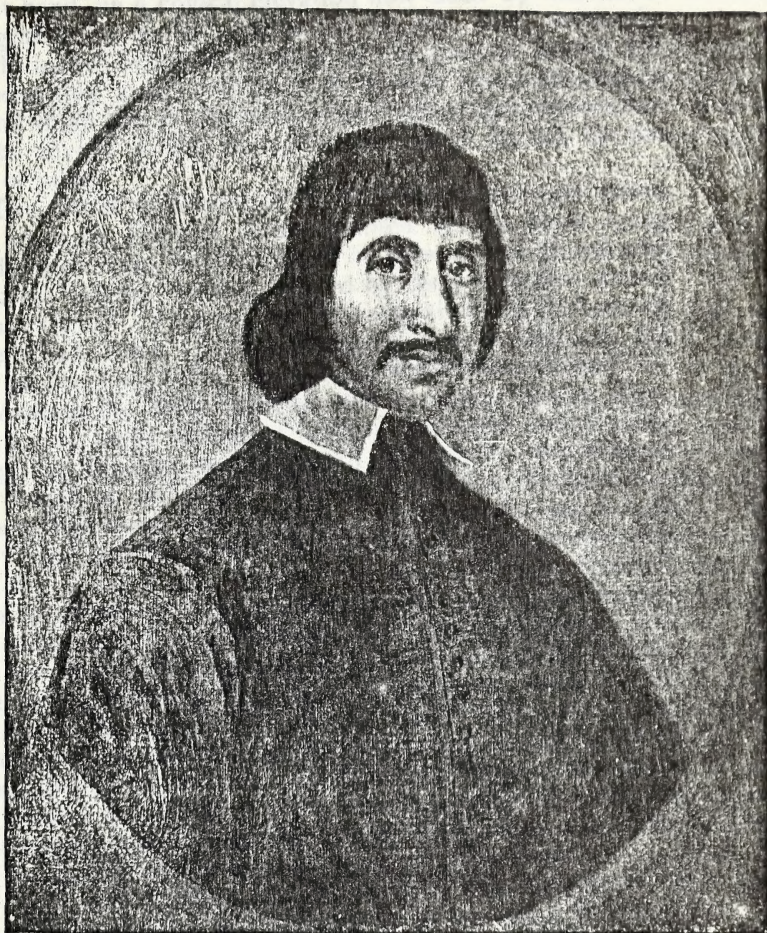
BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

Two hundred and fifty years ago it was ordered by the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, "in answer to the petition of the inhabitants of Topsfield * * * that from henceforth they shall be a town and have power within themselves to order all civil affairs, as other towns have," and we, the successors of those who came seeking to build a Commonwealth in the New England wilderness, are here met together, in family pride, to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of our town, and, in loving memory of its builders, to recall from the bygone, yet living past, the story of their lives and deeds. And, while turning, leaf by leaf, the time-worn records of our forefathers, the quaint old letters reveal the sturdy life, the self denial, and the struggle toward a larger growth. The strong hands which for two hundred and fifty long years have cleared and tilled the hillside and the valley, and the busy brains which for eight generations have put their life and thought into this our heritage, have shaped a monument for generations yet unborn.

The settlers of this town were a plain people, who won their bread by their industry, yet among them were men of ability and native worth, whose descendants, now spread far and wide across the broad continent, bear witness in their lives that the leaven of the early day leaveneth the whole lump. The mere mention of a dozen family names,—Gould, Peabody,

Perkins, Bradstreet, Towne, Porter, How, Averill, Cummings, Baker, Wildes or Clark, brings to recollection the names of sons, distinguished in varied walks in life, and as the benediction of an honorable ancestry passes to the remotest generation, let us, the living present, faithfully preserve the memory of the past.

We here commemorate the two hundred and fiftieth return of our natal day, but the first clearing in the virgin forest and the first log house near the slowly-flowing Agawam antedate the political birth of the settlement by a dozen years or more. When John Winthrop, the younger, with his little party of adventurers, landed at Agawam in the early spring of 1633, he laid the foundation of a settlement, from which the present town of Topsfield was the natural offshoot. Two of his party of a dozen men were afterwards located at the New Meadows, which was the name applied by the settlers to this locality. The town of Ipswich was incorporated in 1634, and grew rapidly in population and importance, becoming a shire-town in the county. With the growth of the settlement came a need for more land. The greed of land possession is very noticeable in scanning the early records. The territory available was seemingly without limit and everybody hastened to obtain grants of land, which varied in extent with the social importance of the individual. Large grants of land were recorded without any attempt being made to specify bounds or even a location, that being a matter of controversy for committees and towns to agree upon at a later date. As the clearing of the unbroken forest was an undertaking requiring time and the assistance of many hands, the settlers early laid claim to the natural clearings near the river Agawam, and in time followed its banks to a point some seven miles to the westward where a large extent of meadow was found and designated as the "New Meadows." This locality had been much resorted to by the Agawam tribe of Indians, who called the spot Shenewemedy. On the plains lying to the westward of the present village, Indian relics frequently have been found, and at one place there seems to have been an Indian camping ground where a large number of stone implements and weapons were made,—the ground being littered with chippings from two varieties of rock; and



JOHN WINTHROP THE YOUNGER.

FOUNDER OF IPSWICH AND GOVERNOR OF CONNECTICUT.

near at hand, on a conical elevation now used by the town for a gravel pit, can be seen, at the highest point, some six or eight inches below the surface of the ground as the hill has been dug away, evidences of beacon fires,—blackened soil and small bits of charcoal,—fires lighted generations before the advent of the European, the ashes buried by the flight of years.

The actual settlement of the New Meadows began about 1639, when the General Court granted certain lands lying near Ipswich river, to inhabitants of Ipswich and Salem who had farms nearby, "to bee enjoyed by those who first settled a village there." Four years later it appeared that the Ipswich farmers had, since 1641, "maintained one to dispende the word of God unto them, which they intend to continue."

Among the early settlers were Zaccheus Gould, afterward a very large holder of land in Topsfield and Rowley Village (or Boxford as it afterward was called); the Redingtons, Abraham and John; Thomas Howlett and William Perkins who had come with Winthrop; Reverend William Knight who "dispended the word;" Walter Roper, the carpenter who built the great bridge across the river; William Howard, the man of affairs; Francis Peabody, the miller and ancestor of a noteworthy line of descendants; Isaac Cummings; William Towne, whose daughters, Rebecca Nurse and Mary Esty, suffered death during the witchcraft delusion; Allan Perley, and Alexander Knight who had a Court record as a liar. Governor John Endecott owned large tracts of land lying on the south side of the river and Governor Simon Bradstreet was granted five hundred acres, a large portion of which has but recently passed from the family name, after a continuous occupation of over two hundred and fifty years.

Reverend William Knight, the first who ministered to the spiritual needs of the inhabitants at the New Meadows, was a non-conformist minister who refused to obey ecclesiastical injunction and, embarking for Massachusetts Bay, was received an inhabitant of Salem in 1637. The next year he was living in Ipswich and in 1641 he began his labors at the New Meadows. The organization of the church did not occur at this time, nor did Mr. Knight long remain with his little flock, for the tract, "Good News from New England,"

which was published in London in 1648, says,—“William Knight of New Meadows has gone back to England.”

But how came the little settlement at the New Meadows by its present name? Unfortunately, the men who make history seldom preserve for posterity detailed accounts of their achievements. The story of the christening of the locality is interesting, but the main fact, alas! like much other historical data, lacks absolute confirmation, for the speeches made at the meetings of the honored court of assistants, together with the motives governing the actions of that magisterial body, found no record on the written page.

Among the earliest of those holding grants of land in and near our borders, was Samuel Symonds, of Ipswich, afterwards Assistant and Deputy Governor. In 1637 the town of Ipswich granted to him a farm of five hundred acres, having for its westerly bounds Pye brook, which still slowly makes its winding way through meadow and thicket, barely a five minutes walk from the ancient burial place. This farm was long known on the records by the name of “Olivers.” In 1642, John Winthrop, son of Governor Winthrop and afterwards the first Colonial governor of Connecticut, while in London, sold a tract of land lying near Mr. Symonds’ farm, to one Henry Parks, merchant-tailor of London, and in the deed, which is elaborately engrossed upon parchment, he mentions that the land is located partly in “the Hamlett Village or place called Toppesfield in the parish of Ipswich,” preserving the spelling used to designate a small parish in Essex County in Old England. Thus early does the name appear and yet in other transfers of title, and in various matters of record inscribed at Ipswich and Salem, the locality for several years longer was known as the New Meadows.

At last, in 1648, the settlement having grown larger and more important, Zaccheus Gould, Brian Pendleton and William Payne, addressed a petition to the General Court asking that the locality be given a name, at the same time suggesting that Hempstead might with propriety be adopted. Now Zaccheus Gould, a large land owner, had come over seas from Hemel Hempstead, and in thus suggesting that the settlement should be named Hempstead, he was endeavoring to transplant to New England soil the familiar name of the old home.

his Indistur

The petition was read to the Deputies and found their approval, but when the higher court of Assistants viewed their action it was unceremoniously set aside and the petition returned with the endorsement that the settlement should be called Toppesfield. In this the Deputies obediently concurred and, with a slight abbreviation in the spelling, so it has remained to this day.

Samuel Symonds was then a member of that court and beyond all doubt he was responsible for the change of name, being actuated by the same fond desire to perpetuate in the land of his adoption, the name of the parish in old England where he had worshipped God according to the dictates of his conscience and in whose old stone church ten of his children had been baptized. He had applied the name locally some years before, as witness the deed from John Winthrop in 1642. He was a prominent man in the colony, an Assistant from 1643 to 1673, when he was made Deputy-Governor and so remained until his death in 1678; so it is not strange that his influence should be a sufficient motive for the action of the magistrates.

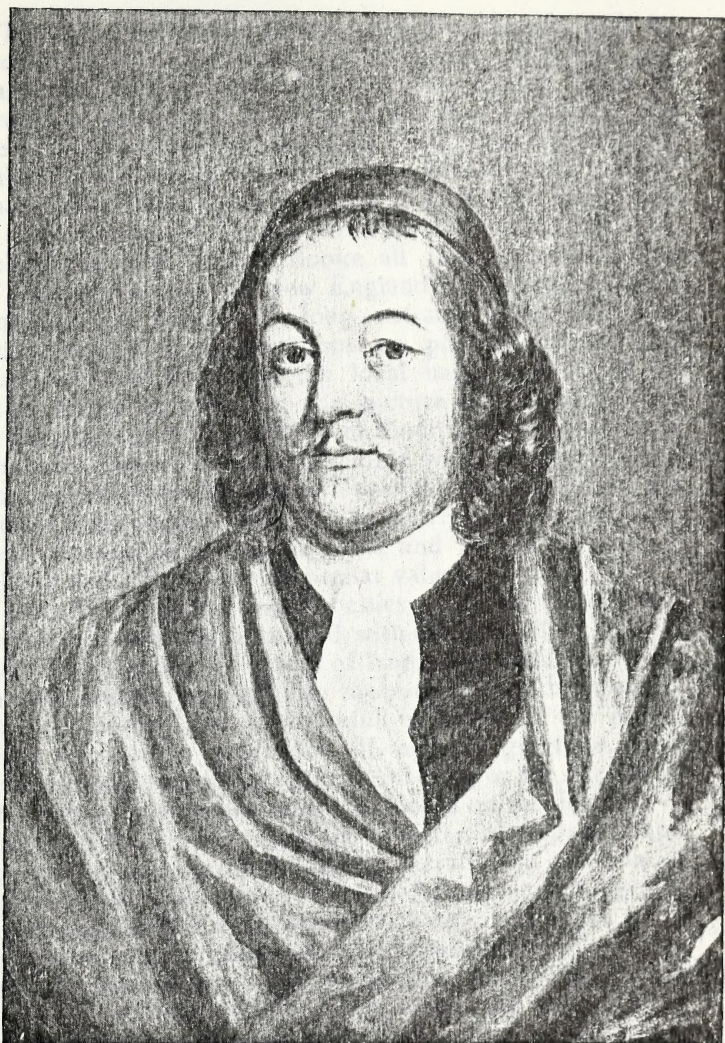
Toppesfield, England, in the County of Essex, is now a small parish of little over a thousand souls. It lies about fifty miles north-east from London and is finally reached by narrow roads winding through a succession of luxuriant fields and meadows. Singularly enough, as Topsfield, New England, is noted, the country far and wide, for its rolling land and succession of hills,—indeed, one author has styled it “the Switzerland of Essex County”,—so Toppesfield, old England, holds within its parish limits the highest lands in the shire. Its church, an ancient edifice of brick and rubble stone, is dedicated to St. Margaret; the tower, which was rebuilt in 1725, containing a chime of five bells. Numerous memorial brasses are inserted in the floor and about the walls of the interior, one, containing the figures of a man and a woman in the costume of the sixteenth century, standing in a devotional attitude, has the following inscription, the spelling of which to modern eyes, presents wonderful combinations of the Roman alphabet. “Pray for the sowlys of John Cracherood and Agnes his wyff y^e whiche John decsyd y^e yere of o^r Lord God MDXXXIIII [1534] on whose sowl

Jesu haue mercy." Nearly four centuries ago the ashes of this sorrowing countryman of ours became a memory, and a hundred seasons passed before the first settler felled a tree growing on the wooded plains of Topsfield.

There are five manors in the ancient parish, while Hedingham Castle is but four miles distant. Berwick Hall, which is near the Church, in the days of King John paid an annual rental of 45 pence, 49 days work and 10 hens, while Flowers Hall not far distant annually figured in a transaction outranking Columbus' famous balancing feat with the egg, for at the end of the harvest season Edward Benlowes, Esq., of Finchingfield, received his assize of 8 shillings, one cock, one hen, and an egg and a half.

Toppesfield! As to the name, antiquarians tell us that in good old Saxon times, the locality belonged to a yellow-haired individual whose name was Toppa,—hence Toppesfield. We do know, however, that Roman civilization here found lodgment at an early date, for the ancient Roman road between Colchester and Cambridge passed near at hand and more than all, early in the present century, a laborer digging a ditch, unearthed the skeleton of a Roman warrior with a corroded sword blade lying across his fleshless breast; a Roman coin; a metal vase and several little cups of Samian ware, completed the sum of his earthly possessions,—nothing more.

I have told you of Zaccheus Gould's ill success with the honored magistrates. Nearly two years elapsed after his petition, before the settlement became in fact a town. The entry on the Colony records, which I already have read, is in duplicate under the dates of October 16 and October 18. And so it was that New Meadows cast aside its swaddling clothes and entered into a new and enlarged life as a municipality, a part and factor in the Colony, and, after Lexington, the State; a township which is very dear to us here assembled, because it is beautiful, and we love it, and it is our home. Her green hills and fertile vales; the winding river and the sunlit lake; each touch of Nature's hand, each tree, each rock we love, and to-day the scattered sons of Topsfield in their distant wanderings have heard the mother's call and hasten to the old homestead to keep jubilee together.



GOVERNOR SIMON BRADSTREET.

The organization of the first town government, with its "selected" men, its "clarke", its constable, hogreeve and tithing men, is irrevocably lost, for the earliest book of records was burned, in 1658, by a fire that consumed the home of John Redington, the town clerk. So the historian and the ancestor-hunter must content himself with meagre extracts made from the second book, in 1676, by a committee who were instructed by the town to "transcribe the olde book into the new Towne Booke all that is needful to bee don" and, as the files of New England's newspapers until a recent day are filled with long extracts from European prints,—lengthy communications on political affairs and contain but little regarding the local happening which we need to supply the color for the picture of the period, so, until the year when King Philip of Mount Hope caused even the householders of Boston to tremble, we only find recorded the bounds between Salem and Topsfield, the division of the common lands on the south side of the river, an invitation to Samuel Howlett of Ipswich to come and set up his trade of smithing, and a few items of similar value.

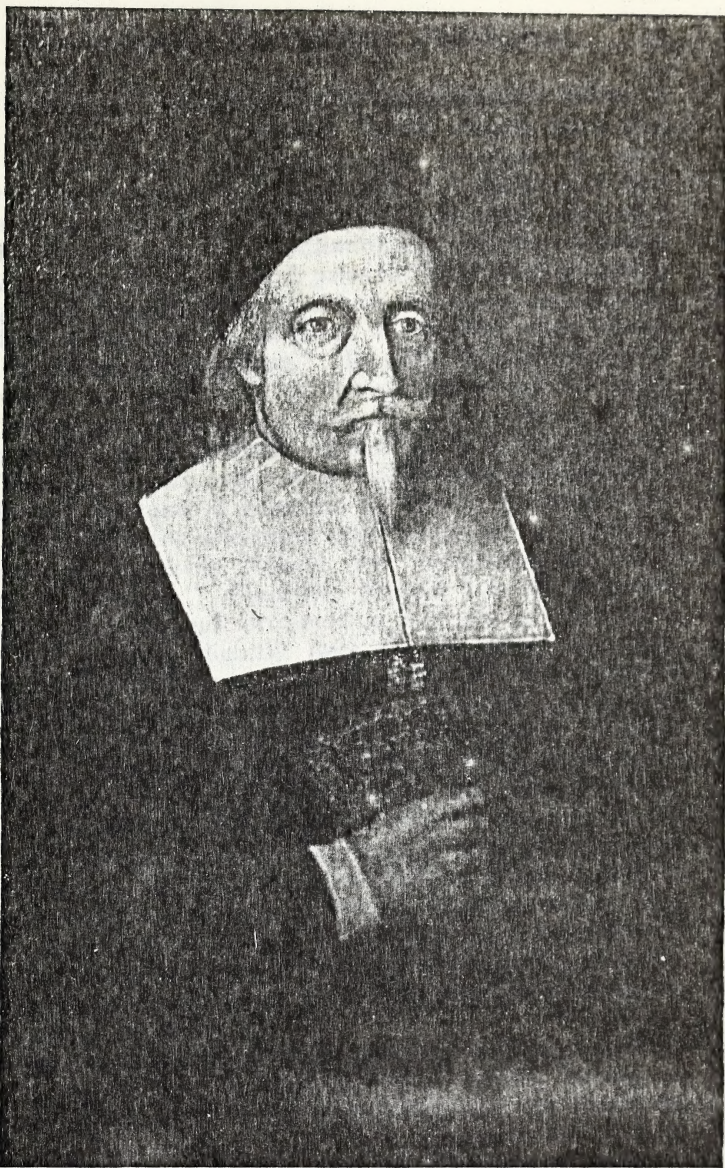
But after 1676, few towns or cities can boast of municipal records more carefully preserved, with entries made in greater detail. It is a story of grants of land, of boundaries, taxes, highways, bridges, provision for the poor, care of the common lands and timber and the careful oversight of the public morals. No matter was too small, nor too great, to merit watchful consideration by the town meeting or the selectmen. With loving minuteness they legislated on the location of the meeting-house, the pay of the minister, the construction of the gallery and the stairs leading thereto, the location of the pulpit and, with many reconsiderations and changes in the personnel of the committees in charge, the town acted upon that most important matter, the seating of the worshipers in the meeting house. Do not imagine for an instant that this seating of the congregation, meant the deposit of so much flesh and blood in an appropriate place. That would mean equality and was little in keeping with the New England life. The largest tax payers and those of social position exacted the last pound of flesh when a question of precedent arose. To supplement the watchful care of the minister,

tithing men living in various parts of the town were selected and placed in charge of the families living in their immediate neighborhoods, to catechize and overlook them in their homes. On Sunday, the tithing man's staff, a knob at one end, a rabbit's tail at the other, rapped or tickled the unwary sleeper according to the just deserts of the individual. The "meeting" was the centre round which the life of the town revolved, and the interval between the morning and afternoon religious service was the actual meeting where gossip, both masculine and feminine, on topics social, political and religious, lighted the dark shadows of the rugged life of our forefathers and sent them home, renewed and fit for their isolated struggle with the soil. Our neighbors from Boxford Village who attended meeting in the Topsfield meeting-house, in 1672, petitioned the town for liberty to "set up a house to shelter themselves in with a fire in it",—a shrine to physical comfort and the social life.

The early records are not lacking in quaintness. When John Robinson, in consideration of the sum of twenty-five shillings per annum, agreed to sweep the meeting-house and fasten the doors, as a perquisite he was appointed to dig graves "for such as shall Requir him and to have three shillins six penc for al graues abou four foot long and two and six penc for al under." A sexton indeed in every sense of the word.

In the spring of 1682, the town held its usual town meeting and after electing its "selectmen", it passed a vote outlining in part what was expected of them, namely,—"that ye selectmen shall repair all breaches about ye meeting house & parsonig house and barn & to make seates in ye meeting house & mend the wach house and all other prudenciall afares of ye Towne all at ye Towne charge prohibiting the selectmen from aliniting any of ye Towne Common," carefully guarding, you will note, their landed rights.

A year or two later a vote was passed accepting and allowing constable Comings' bill of charges for conveying Evan Morris out of town and for "forwarneing two women out of the Towne," the usual method of relieving the locality of destitute or undesirable inhabitants. This Evan Morris



GOVERNOR JOHN ENDECOTT.

From the Original Painting in the Possession of William C. Endicott, jr.

must have been a fire brand and an uncomfortable fellow to have around, for the Quarterly Court records show that while he was living in Topsfield he was presented at court for "reviling in reproachful language the ordinances of God and such as are in church fellowship, saying when some were together keeping a day of Humiliation that they were howling like wolves and lifting up their paws for their Children saying the gallows were built for members and members' children and if there had been no members of churches there would have been no need of gallows." In 1687, the head of a wolf was worth ten shillings of the town's money and the same year liberty was voted to any person to plant tobacco on the common ground, provided he did not intrude in any highway.

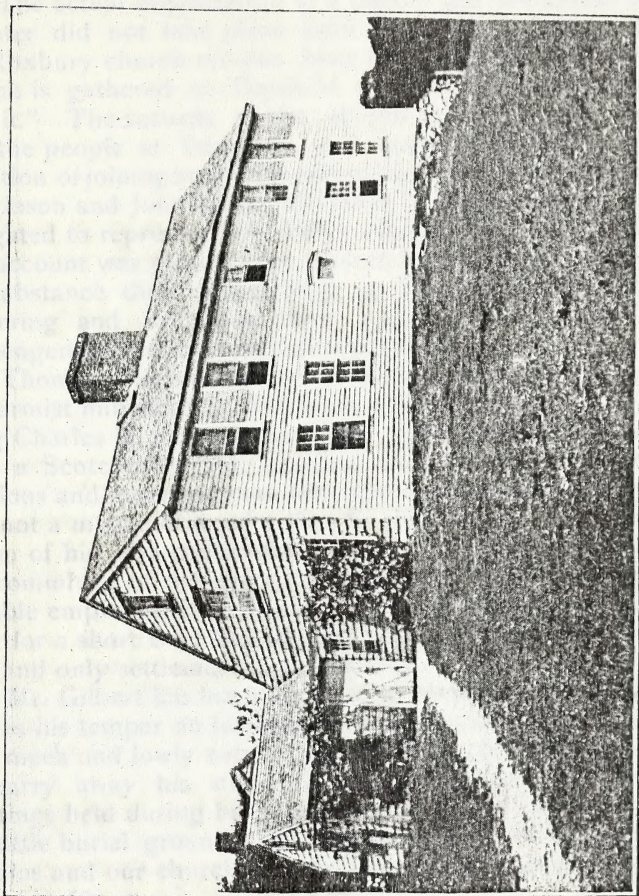
That the dignity and morality of the town was sometimes considered at stake, is witnessed by a vote recorded in the year 1693, when the selectmen were instructed to complain at court of Goodwife Neland, for "slandering the wholl Towne of Topsfield." Goodwife Neland was the eloquent partner in the joys and sorrows of an obstinate Irishman who had built a house directly over the boundary line that separated Topsfield from Ipswich. Whenever the constable from Topsfield called on him for the minister's rate, he was sure to be found in the Ipswich side of his house. Finally after many fruitless attempts to collect the tax, forbearance ceased to be a virtue, and taking with him several sturdy fellows, Constable Wildes presented himself at the pig pen of the wily Irishman, with black staff of office in hand, and distrained and carried away a fat porker, which cashed in full the unsettled balance in Parson Capen's salary rate. This event happened shortly before the town proceeded in its action against Goodwife Neland and indicates the probable animus for that good lady's scolding remarks concerning the fair name of Topsfield.

The annals of a New England town must begin with its church, which was in fact the body politic, having an influence in the affairs of the community that can hardly be estimated at the present time. The support of the minister was a regular item of civic expense and he was chosen in open town meeting. When the log-house had given shelter, and the home field and common land had furnished suste-

nance, then the community began to estimate its financial strength and shortly the meeting-house was built and the minister settled.

Reverend William Knight who "dispenced the word" having returned to England, the settlement seems to have been without regular preaching until 1655 when Reverend William Perkins came from Gloucester, and buying a farm, cast his lot with the Topsfield farmers. He seems to have been a man of many parts and quite a figure in the colony. The son of a merchant tailor in London, he contributed £ 50 to the Massachusetts Bay Company and received a grant of 400 acres of land. Until 1643 he lived in Roxbury and then removed to Weymouth where he was elected representative to the General Court. He also commanded a military company and was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in Boston. In 1651, he appears in Gloucester, as a spiritual adviser to the people and in this profession he seems to have passed many troublesome moments, for on several occasions his grievances were aired in the County Courts. The testimony in one case is interesting, for, after making due allowance for personal bias, we have a picture of his pulpit success. Mrs. Holgrave of Gloucester was presented at Court the fourth month of 1652 for reproachful and unbecoming speech against Mr. William Perkins an officer of the church, witnesses testifying, that she had said, "that if it were not for the law she would never come to meeting the teacher was so dead and accordingly she did seldom come and with all persuaded Goodwife Vincent to come to her house on the Sabbath day and read good books, affirming that the Teacher were fitter to be a Lady's shamberman than to be in the pulpit."

Mr. Perkins finally brought suit against the town of Gloucester in an effort to collect his salary, and early in 1655 came to Topsfield where he preached to the neighborhood until the gathering of a church in 1663. A fragment of an autobiographical sketch states that he was absent in England in 1670 and again two years later. While writing of the marriage of Katharine, his second daughter, he relates with much enthusiasm, that "she was the first which the mercifull Providence of God gave me opportunity to be disposed of



THE FRENCH-ANDREWS HOUSE, BUILT 1675-6.

in marriage." He died in 1682, aged 75 years, leaving a numerous posterity.

The actual organization of a church and settlement of a minister did not take place until November 4, 1663, when the Roxbury church records have the following entry,—“A church is gathered at Topsfield with Mr. Thomas Gilbert over it.” The records of the church at Salem also show that the people at Topsfield sent letters “signifying their intention of joining in church fellowship,” and Reverend John Higginson and John Porter, the latter of Salem Village, were delegated to represent the Salem church. On their return “an account was given to the church by the Pastor, that for the substance their proceedings at Topsfield in the church gathering and ordination there was approved of by the messengers of the Churches then present.”

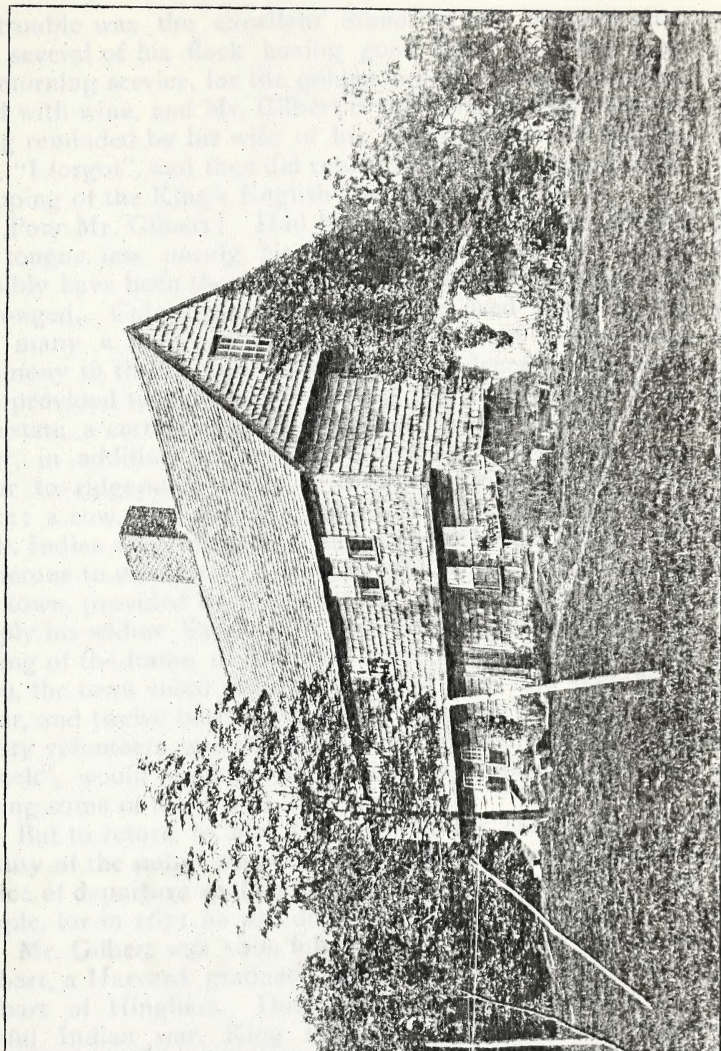
Thomas Gilbert, the newly settled pastor, was a non-conformist minister who had been ejected from his living by King Charles II. of merry memory. He is supposed to have been a Scotchman, and proving to be a man of strong opinions and much given to the expression of his convictions, it is not a matter of wonder that he should early become the victim of his non-conformist views. Under date of 1661, the committee of the colonies wrote that he had “met with suitable employment at Rowley.” He also appears at Salisbury for a short time, but in 1663 he found at Topsfield his first and only settlement in the Colony.

Mr. Gilbert has left no register of his labors in Topsfield, and as his temper on leaving the town could not have been of a meek and lowly nature, perhaps he preferred to destroy or carry away his story of infants baptized, of church meetings held during his ministry and of dead laid at rest in the little burial ground. Be that as it may, no manuscript remains and our church records begin with Parson Capen's hand in 1684.

No doubt at first the relations between pastor and people were all that could be desired. Each felt the honor and the responsibility of the organization round which the town centred, and Mr. Gilbert was probably looked upon as a leader; but a man of his temperament could not live beside Reverend William Perkins without differences arising, perhaps

of theology, perhaps of politics, so in 1666 we find Mr. Perkins making complaint in the County Court against Mr. Gilbert for sedition, "that in his prayers and sermons he made scandalous speeches against the King's majesty and his government," for which, to my mind, he had ample ground, for had he not been ignominiously removed from his comfortable living and been compelled to seek a new home in the wilds of Massachusetts Bay? One of the deacons of the church testified that the minister had prayed that "God would convert the King's majesty and the royal family or turn them from superstition and idolitry" and it was said that on another occasion he used these words, "that Christ Jesus should reign in despite of all the devil's Kings, doe what they can." The evidence was too strong for Mr. Gilbert and the Court ordered that he be admonished by the Governor in their presence. But the majesty of the law and the power of the magistrates could not bridle the minister's tongue and he could not forget the active and successful interest of Mr. Perkins in his affairs, so the following year we find that gentleman bringing suit against Mr. Gilbert for defamation of character.

But if the reverend gentleman twitted his brother by relating divers facts and personal fancies, he in turn soon gave occasion for his people to question the self-denial of their spiritual adviser when the wine was of good age and flavor, for it was not long before he was brought into court charged with intemperance. It was shown that one afternoon the previous summer, it being sacrament day, the people waited long for their minister, some even going home, and when he came at last and began to pray, all saw that he was distempered in his head, for he repeated many things over and lisped badly and when he had done, he commenced to sing and then read a psalm so that it could not be well understood and then went to praying again and was about following it with another hymn when Isaac Cummings arose in his seat and desired him to forbear. All testified that he then became very angry and said "I bless God I find a good deal of comfort in it," and came down from the pulpit and said to the people, "I give notice that I will preach among you no more." It finally appeared that the prime source of



THE "PARSON CAPEN HOUSE," ERECTED IN 1686-8.

the trouble was the excellent dinner he had enjoyed that day, several of his flock having gone home with him from the morning service, for the golden cup was brought out and filled with wine, and Mr. Gilbert drank twice, deeply, and on being reminded by his wife of his neglect to return thanks, said, "I forgot", and then did return thanks and sing a psalm, "clipping of the King's English and lisping."

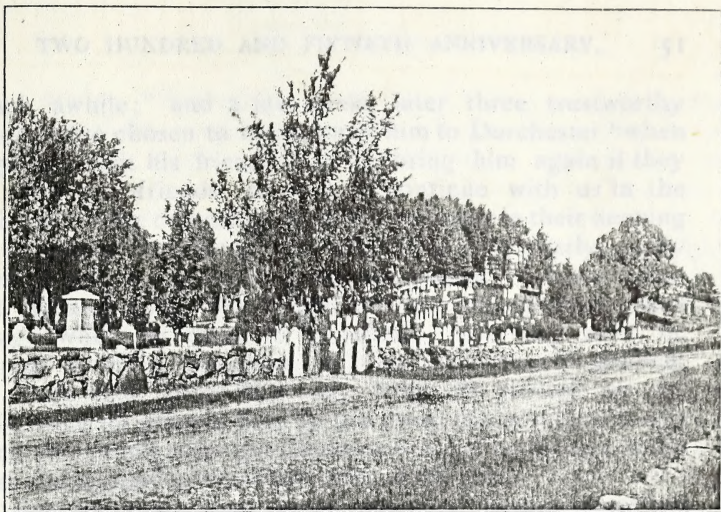
Poor Mr. Gilbert! Had he owned a spirit more gentle and tongue less unruly, his lapse at the wine cup would possibly have been thought less of and his stay in Topsfield prolonged. Cider, beer and wine were used freely by all, and many a will probated at Salem Court bears silent testimony to the loving forethought of the deceased husband, who provided that the widow should annually receive from his estate, a certain number of gallons of rum or barrels of cider, in addition to one-half of the old homestead from cellar to ridgepole; cords of firewood ready for the fireplace; a cow, the use of a horse to ride to meeting,—beef, pork, Indian corn, malt, flax, and many other necessities too numerous to mention. As late as 1761, David Cummings of this town, provided by will, that the estate should annually supply his widow Sarah with five barrels of cider. At the raising of the frame of the new church which was built in 1759, the town voted to buy a barrel of rum, fifty pounds of sugar, and twelve barrels of cider, with which to regale the thirsty volunteers, and the item in the bill of charges, "mugs broack", would seem to show that conviviality prevailed among some of those who were present.

But to return to Mr. Gilbert,—In his case, it was the dignity of the pulpit which he should have preserved and the notice of departure spoken in heat was well received by his people, for in 1671 he was dismissed from the charge.

Mr. Gilbert was soon followed by Reverend Jeremiah Hobart, a Harvard graduate and a son of Reverend Peter Hobart of Hingham. During his ministry occurred the direful Indian war, King Philip's. The terrible reverses which occurred during the summer of 1675, caused the colonists to take a gloomy view of the situation, and spurred by fear of possible raids by Indians from the eastward, the selectmen ordered a stone wall to be built around the meeting-

house. It was six feet high and had a watch tower ten feet square built at the south-eastern corner. The construction was undertaken voluntarily by those who worshipped in the meeting-house and included many from Rowley Village now Boxford, and others from Linebrook lying on the boundary line in Ipswich. Of a similar defence at that period, I have failed to find a record in eastern Massachusetts. For years it stood watch and ward over the safety of the Topsfield farmers. Meanwhile, Mr. Hobart was making enemies among his congregation. He was accused of immoralities and the town withheld his salary. Finally the minister brought the matter before the County Court and the town was ordered to pay all arrearages and also to put the ministry house, out-houses and fences into sufficient repair. This was in 1679. Matters dragged along until the next year when he was dismissed, but, while waiting for another settlement, he continued to occupy the parsonage, and as possession is nine points of the law, the town failed to oust him. In December 1681, the town appointed a committee to go to Mr. Hobart and demand the keys of the parsonage house, but nothing was thereby accomplished for it was six months later when Mr. Hobart signed a receipt for the remainder of his salary, whereby he discharged the indebtedness of the town to him "since the beginning of the world." He finally found a distant settlement at Hempstead, Long Island, a little later removing to Haddam, Connecticut, where in his 72nd year, in a petition to the Governor, he styled himself "an ancient, dejected and despised minister." November 6, 1715, it being the Lord's Day, he attended public worship in the forenoon and received the sacrament and during the intermission, expired, while sitting in his chair.

Reverend Joseph Capen, "that revered man", came to the town of Topsfield as its minister in 1682, Reverend John Danforth, a young preacher of Dorchester and Daniel Epps the famous Salem schoolmaster, having previously declined the honor of a settlement. We learn from the town records that Thomas Perkins jr., and Joseph Bixby jr., were chosen to go to Cambridge to pilot Mr. Capen to Lieutenant Francis Peabody's house in Topsfield and next we find that a committee was appointed "to discourse with Mr. Capen to stay and



PINE GROVE CEMETERY.

GRAVESTONES OF "PARSON" CAPEN AND HIS WIFE.

preach awhile;" and a few weeks later three trustworthy citizens were chosen to accompany him to Dorchester "when he goes to visit his friends and to bring him again if they can with his friends' consent, to continue with us in the ministry." The committee held him securely in their keeping and in time a settlement was effected at £ 65 yearly, partly in silver and partly in current pay, namely:—corn, pork, beef, rye and malt. Mr. Capen was but twenty-three years of age when he came to Topsfield. Not long after, he married Priscilla, daughter of John Appleton, of Ipswich, and some time after May 24, 1686, he erected on the twelve acre lot granted him by the town, the two-story house which still stands near the Common,—a joy to the eye of the artist and a most picturesque relic of the past.

For forty-two long years "Parson" Capen preached acceptably, a faithful and loved pastor and a shining contrast to his predecessors. In 1703 the old meeting-house in the cemetery was abandoned and a new one built on the present location, an elevation having been leveled for the purpose. This building was torn down in 1759 and a new meeting-house built, which in turn, in 1842, gave way to the present structure. The building which was raised in 1759 was removed in 1842 to Salem, near the Peabody line, and is still standing and in use as a tannery.

Mr. Capen died in 1725 and all that was mortal was buried on the spot where long years before his pulpit had stood, and at the head of the mound was erected an elaborately carved stone recording this summum of his life:—

DEAR MR. CAPEN, THAT REVERED MAN
WHO DID THE FAITH OF CHRIST MAINTAIN
A LEARNED MAN AND GODLY TOO
NONE WILL DENY THIS, WHO HIM KNEW.

During Mr. Capen's ministry occurred the terrible delusion of witchcraft. The nearness of Topsfield to Salem Village,—Danvers, the home of the accusing girls and especially the question of disputed bounds wherein the Putnam and Towne families were concerned and which had caused much ill-feeling, made it impossible that this town should

escape. Rebecca Nurse of Salem Village, and Mary Esty of Topsfield, daughters of William Towne and highly respected by their neighbors, were carried to an ignominious death. Mary Esty has been called "the self forgetful," because in a petition to Governor Phips, written while in prison, she asked not for her own life but that other innocent blood might not be shed. Sarah Wildes, the aged wife of John Wildes, was also executed and several others were accused, only escaping as reason dawned on the frenzied community.

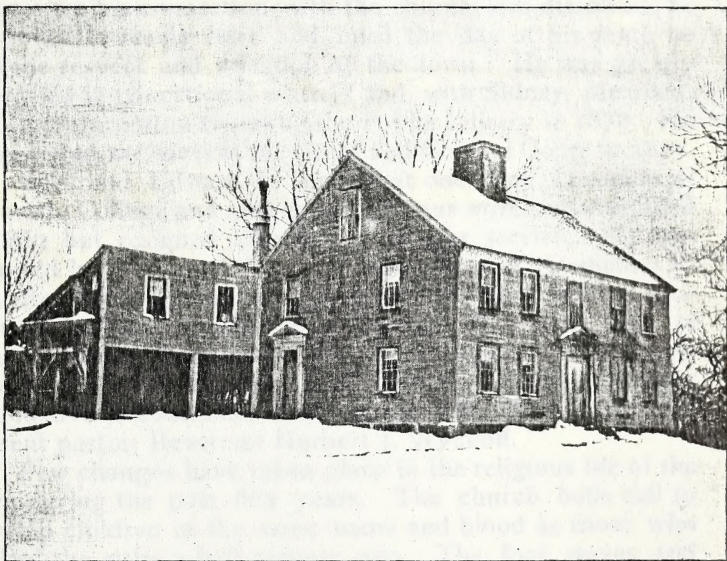
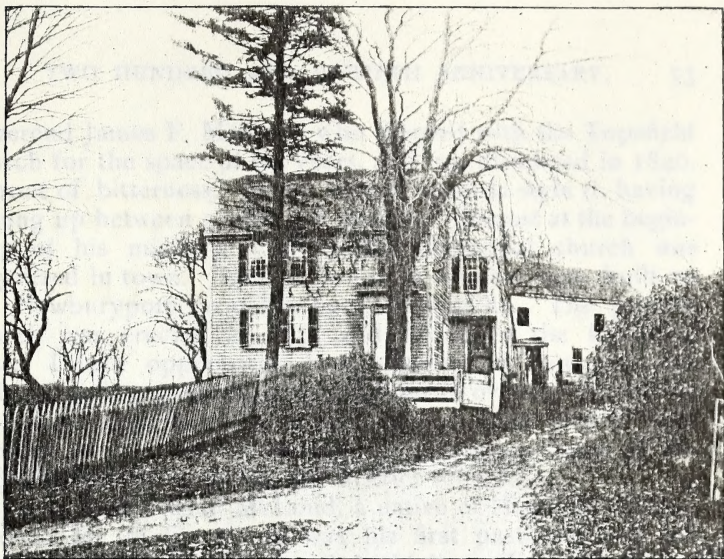
Mr. Capen's successor was Reverend John Emerson, a native of Charlestown, Mass., who preached until shortly before the outbreak of the Revolution, serving "God faithfully in the gospel of his Son upwards of forty-five years." His descendants have been prominent in town affairs and a grandson, Billy Emerson, was the greatest general trader that Essex County ever had, owning a large amount of live stock and real estate, and when journeying to Canada, as he frequently did, it is said that he could stop in his own tavern each night on the journey.

Reverend Daniel Breck, who had been a Chaplain in the Revolutionary Army, was settled over the church in 1779. He was a man of fair talents who endeavored to introduce reforms into the church discipline, which awakened such opposition that he was dismissed after nine years of service. At the time of the Bi-centennial Celebration in 1850, a congratulatory letter from his son, then a congressman from Kentucky, was read at the after-dinner exercises.

Reverend Asahel Huntington came to the church from Connecticut, and in 1813, death closed his useful and honorable career. His son Elisha Huntington, M. D., was the first mayor of Lowell, and Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts. Another son, Asahel Huntington, was a bright light in the legal fraternity and eighth mayor of Salem.

In 1817, a bell, the first in town, was purchased at Paul Revere's foundry, and the town voted that it "be rung on all public days and tolled for funerals."

Reverend Rodney Gove Dennis of New Boston, N. H., was the next settled minister who, after a stay of seven years, asked for a dismission, urging that his success in the church did not justify his continuance here. He was followed by



THE DR. RICHARD DEXTER HOUSE,
Erected about 1750, now the property of the Essex Agricultural Society.

THE DUDLEY BRADSTREET HOUSE,
Erected in 1771, now remodeled and owned by Thomas E. Proctor.

Reverend James F. McEwen who labored with the Topsfield church for the space of ten years, and was dismissed in 1840, a "root of bitterness," as the church records style it, having sprung up between pastor and people. Almost at the beginning of his ministry a Methodist Episcopal church was organized in town. Its first house of worship was built on the Newburyport turnpike, near Springville. The present church was erected in 1853 and dedicated the following year. I lack opportunity to enumerate at this time the various ministers who have been stationed over the Methodist church,—suffice it to say that a number have placed their impress on the educational life of the town, both in the Topsfield Academy and in the district school.

Reverend Anson McLoud, a native of Hartford, Conn., followed Mr. McEwen. It was his first pastorate and for twenty-eight years he labored faithfully. For a number of years after his connection with the church was dissolved, he continued to reside here and until the day of his death he had the respect and affection of the town. He was greatly interested in educational matters and, with Sidney Merriam, was instrumental in founding the Public Library in 1875. He represented the town at the Great and General Court in 1871.

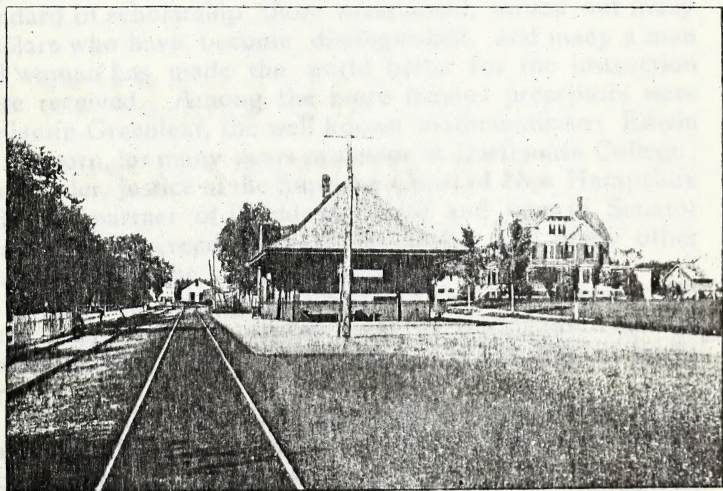
Reverend Edward P. Tenney, at one time President of Colorado College and author of numerous works, was installed in 1869 but resigned after a few months service. He was followed by Reverend James H. Fitts, now of Newfields, N. H.; Reverend Lyndon S. Crawford, for many years a missionary in Turkey; Reverend Charles W. Luck, now of Ogden, Utah; Reverend Albert E. Bradstreet, who is now living in California; Reverend Francis A. Poole, recently settled over a church in East Weymouth, Mass., and the present pastor, Reverend Herbert J. Wyckoff.

Few changes have taken place in the religious life of the town during the past fifty years. The church bells call to worship children of the same name and blood as those who walked the aisles a half century ago. The foot stoves and the bass viol have long since been banished, but the work, worship and belief of our buried sires still have an influence on religious thought and action.

That this town has marked its educational impress on the



THE TOPSFIELD ACADEMY.



THE ACADEMY BUILDING, NOW THE CENTRE SCHOOL-HOUSE.

THE RAILROAD STATION AND RESIDENCE OF MRS. MARY S. KIMBALL.

community at large is well known. The prominent position held at one time by the Topsfield Academy cannot be forgotten nor can we estimate the services of such men as Professor Nehemiah Cleaveland, for twenty years principal of Dummer Academy; Reverend David Peabody, professor at Dartmouth College; Professor Albert Cornelius Perkins, for many years principal of Phillips Exeter Academy, nor Professor John Wright Perkins of Salem, formerly of Dummer Academy, who is with us to-day. The earliest reference to the subject of education to be found in the town records is in 1694, when the town voted that "Goodman Louewell School Master shall liue in ye Parsonage house this yeare ensewing to kepe Schole and swepe ye meeting house." The district school was of course the medium for instruction and continued so until 1867, when the town purchased the Academy building and installed the village schools. The "Centre" school house on Academy hill to-day contains the High School, and in the same building are centralized the schools of the town, graded and efficiently maintained. The Topsfield Academy famous for its preceptors and the high standard of scholarship there maintained, turned out many scholars who have become distinguished, and many a man and woman has made the world better for the instruction there received. Among the more famous preceptors were Benjamin Greenleaf, the well known mathematician; Edwin D. Sanborn, for many years professor at Dartmouth College; Asa Fowler, justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire and a law partner of President Peirce and later of Senator Chandler; Reverend Edmund F. Slafter, and many other men of mark in the various professions.

Patriotism early found a home in this ancient town. In every war, from the swamp fight at Narragansett to the recent conflict with the yellow flag of Spain, she has borne her part.

When King Charles II. demanded the surrender of the charter of the colony the town voted "Wee doe hereby declare y^t wee are vtterly vnwilling to yeeld ether to a Rasigation of the Charter or to any thing y^t shall be equeualent there Vnto Where by ye foundations there of should be raced." It was Lieutenant John Gould of this town who was

among the first of those who openly protested at this usurpation of the rights of the colony and because of his brave words was taken to His Majesty's jail in Boston and afterwards fined. Six years later, shortly after Governor Andros had been deposed from power, Lieutenant Thomas Baker was elected to represent the town and instructed "To act for the publick good and welfare and safety of This Colony, prohibiting any act or thing that may have any tendency to the infringement of any of our charter priulidges what so ever."

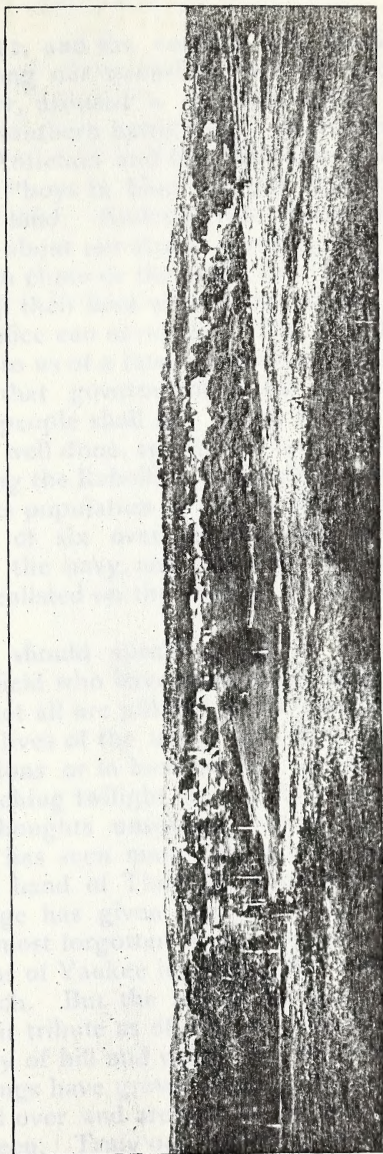
I have alluded to the stone wall about the meeting-house; in 1706 it was called the "old meeting house fort." At an early date a garrison house was built on what is now the Agricultural Farm and a military company was a recognized institution in the town until the middle of the present century, the Topsfield Warren Blues, an independent company, being the last local organization.

Topsfield soldiers were at Port Royal in 1707, and a few years later a number of our men, together with hundreds of other brave New Englanders, found a resting place beneath the dark greensward on Point Rochfort, near "the Dunkirk of America." "No monument marks the sacred spot, but the waves of the restless ocean, in calm or storm, sing an everlasting requiem over the graves of the departed heroes." The removal of the French Acadians brought into town Michael Dugoy and family, who lived in the house formerly occupied by William Towne whose daughters were hung for witchcraft. The old house stood near the highway, a few rods south of the home of Mrs. C. J. P. Floyd. In 1770, the town was drinking "liberty tea," and the same year in town-meeting assembled, a vote was passed to encourage and promote home manufactures, thus showing anticipation of the approaching conflict, and when the storm cloud broke two companies of minute-men, numbering one hundred and ten men, marched to the "Concord fight." At Bunker Hill, Bennington and Ticonderoga, sons of Topsfield fought for that independence which is our right. Over three hundred men were enlisted from this town during the Revolutionary War, the population at no time being greater than eight hundred souls.

The war of 1861, and the few supporters who had been fired at Fort Sumter, the first of our boys to many a bloody battle and Bull Run, at which a bloody conflict, and they were right and for whom they and then still more, but the faint of the southern states. Twenty-four years of war, and patriotism and sacrifice was daily a reminder of the war in vain, "and for the people and for the people shall earth." His work, and for all time. During the war, than one tenth of the population soldiers, a surplus of six men were sent into the army right in our town, and in our towns.

I know that I should have daughters of Cape Cod who were, and though in all ways yet to return the love of the part in the profession of the time of approaching battle.

With many thoughts and close. The town has seen many years, yet the land of The lumbering stage has given the Turnpike is almost impossible filled with triumph of the shoe-maker's beam. But the annually yield that tribute of seasons, the beauty of life and quiet life. Handing have shaded streets and over the footsteps can be seen in the places and we have since come



TOPSFIELD VILLAGE, FROM PRICE'S HILL.

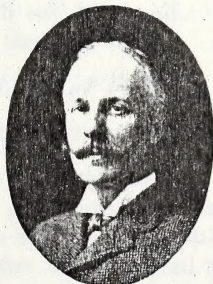
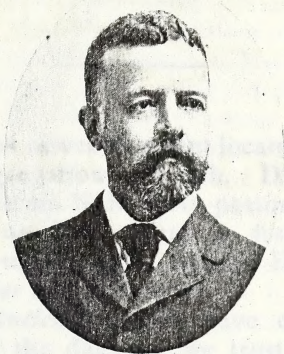
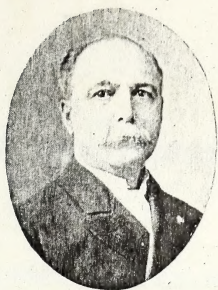
The war of 1812, and the conflict with Mexico, found few supporters among our townsmen, but the cannon-shot fired at Fort Sumter, aroused a patriotic fervor that sent our boys to many a southern battle field. At Fredericksburg and Bull Run; at Antietam and the Wilderness, in many a bloody conflict, our "boys in blue" fought bravely for the right and for native land. Andersonville claimed its victims and men still move about our streets carrying with them the taint of the southern clime or the bullet of a fratricidal foe. Twenty-two gave up their lives while in the service, but their patriotism and sacrifice can never die. The veteran soldier is daily a reminder to us of a later generation, that he fought not in vain, "and that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish forever from the earth." His work, well done, speaks not only for to-day but for all time. During the Rebellion Topsfield furnished more than one tenth of its population or one hundred and thirteen soldiers, a surplus of six over all demands, while fifteen men were sent into the navy, and six, who claimed a birth-right in our town, enlisted on the quotas of adjoining cities and towns.

I know that I should speak to-day of the sons and daughters of Topsfield who have risen above their surroundings, and though not all are pillared in the Temple of Fame, yet to recount the lives of the many who have borne well a part in the professions or in business life, would bring us to the time of approaching twilight ere the story ended.

With many thoughts unspoken, I must hasten to the close. The town has seen many changes during the past fifty years, yet the hand of Time has dealt kindly with her. The lumbering stage has given way to the rail of steel, and the Turnpike is almost forgotten by the traveller; the shop, filled with triumphs of Yankee ingenuity, has supplanted the shoe-maker's bench. But the broad acres of the farmer, annually yield their tribute as of old, and with the changing seasons, the beauty of hill and valley claims the lover of the quiet life. Buildings have grown here and there along the shaded streets and over and around all the love of Nature's footsteps can be seen. Truly our lines have fallen in pleasant places and we have much cause for thankfulness. What our

fathers builded we must jealously maintain and when fifty more years shall have rolled away, and many of us who are here to-day shall sleep in dust, may those who stand in our places find cause for rejoicing in the fruits of our stewardship, and thereby shall we be weighed and found not wanting.

Wherever the future may lead us, and whatever fortune or honor the world may give, it will at all times be the cherished hope of every true son of Topsfield, to be kindly remembered and "lovingly honored on the spot which gave him birth."



CAPT. JOHN G. B. ADAMS

GEN. FRANCIS H. APPLETON

ALBERT A. CONANT

HON. HENRY CABOT LODGE

EDWIN O. FOSTER

HON. AUGUSTUS P. GARDNER

HON. DAVID M. LITTLE

THE AFTER-DINNER EXERCISES.

The dinner was served in a tent located but a short distance from the Congregational Church. Divine blessing was invoked by Rev. William N. Roberts, pastor of the Methodist Church, and, after an hour spent in festivity and social converse, the Toast-master, Rev. George H. Perkins, called the company to order and said:—

Ladies and Gentlemen:—We have come to the less formal exercises of the day, but we trust not to the less enjoyable. Notwithstanding the dampness we shall offer you neither wet nor dry toast. We promise it all with cream. Because of the large number who are to serve us the quantity from each will be small.

We announce as the first toast,

"Our Country, A Land of Freedom and of Progress,"

and I will ask the Band to respond with a patriotic selection.

The Toast-master:—Much to our joy there is present one whose name does not appear on the programme. Had we been assured of his coming this apparent oversight would not have occurred. But we are glad for a double response to this toast, and no one could make it more fittingly than this distinguished guest. Let me present to you the Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, our progressive Senator of the United States Congress.

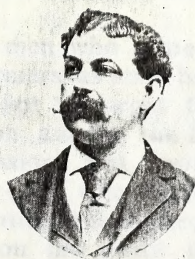
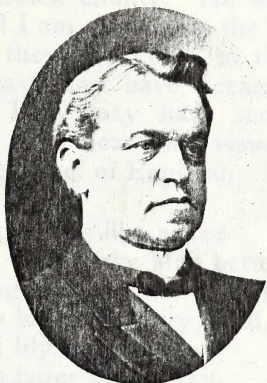
ADDRESS OF HON. HENRY CABOT LODGE.

It is not often when a speaker rises and says 'this is so unexpected, and that he is not prepared' that anyone believes him, but to-day I have the programme to bear me out. My name does not appear upon it, as your Chairman has just stated to you.

Nevertheless, I could never refuse to speak upon such an occasion as this, the celebration of the foundation of a famous town of the old county of Essex. I have too many personal attachments to the county to decline such a request. I have lived all my life in one corner of the county as my father did before me. My children have been born there and, on one side, I am a descendant from the first minister of the first Salem church, and my people on that side have lived and labored, have joyed and sorrowed, have died and been buried within the bounds of the old Puritan county.

It is a great history, that of Essex county, and to celebrate the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of one of its towns means a great deal. While two hundred and fifty years is a long time, measured by the life of an individual man, it is a very short time in the history, even the recorded history of man. It is but a speck in the time that men have been upon the earth, and in the life of our planet; it is but as yesterday or as a watch in the night. But it is not by the calendar that we test the two hundred and fifty years.

When Stanley made his great expedition across Central Africa, he found there in the heart of it, a strange people of black dwarfs living in that vast wilderness, and it again appeared that the old Greek historian Herodotus had not told quite as many lies as some over wise persons said he did, and that here was another truth he had told when he mentioned the African dwarfs. They had been there, these queer little people, for three thousand years to our certain knowledge and they were just the same when Herodotus looked upon them as when Stanley found them.



CHARLES J. PEABODY.

HON. GEORGE VON L. MEYER.

JOHN W. PERKINS.

LIEUT. GOV. JOHN L. BATES.

REV. FRANCIS A. POOLE.

HON. ROBERT S. RANTOUL.

GEORGE A. SCHOFIELD.

It makes no difference whether you celebrate three thousand years, three hundred years, or three days, if the passage of time be all. That is simply existence. Whether there has been something done during that existence is the real question. It is not the length of time that concerns us, but what the men whom we commemorate have done with it. I can best put the thought if you will allow me to do so in the beautiful words of a great contemporary poet, contemporary with the men who settled Topsfield, those Puritans who first came to Essex county. He was a writer of stage plays, this poet, and I am afraid that the Topsfield settlers in former days before they had come to the new country, or some of them at least, may have occasionally gone to the London theatres. They may have seen this poet's plays, they certainly must have heard his verses, and they knew that he had won the laurel of England. He said,

"It is not growing like a tree
In bulk, doth make Man better be;
Or standing long an oak, three hundred year,
To fall a log at last, dry, bald, and sere:
A lily of a day
Is fairer far in May,
Although it fall and die that night—
It was the plant and flower of Light.
In small proportions we just beauties see;
And in short measures life may perfect be."

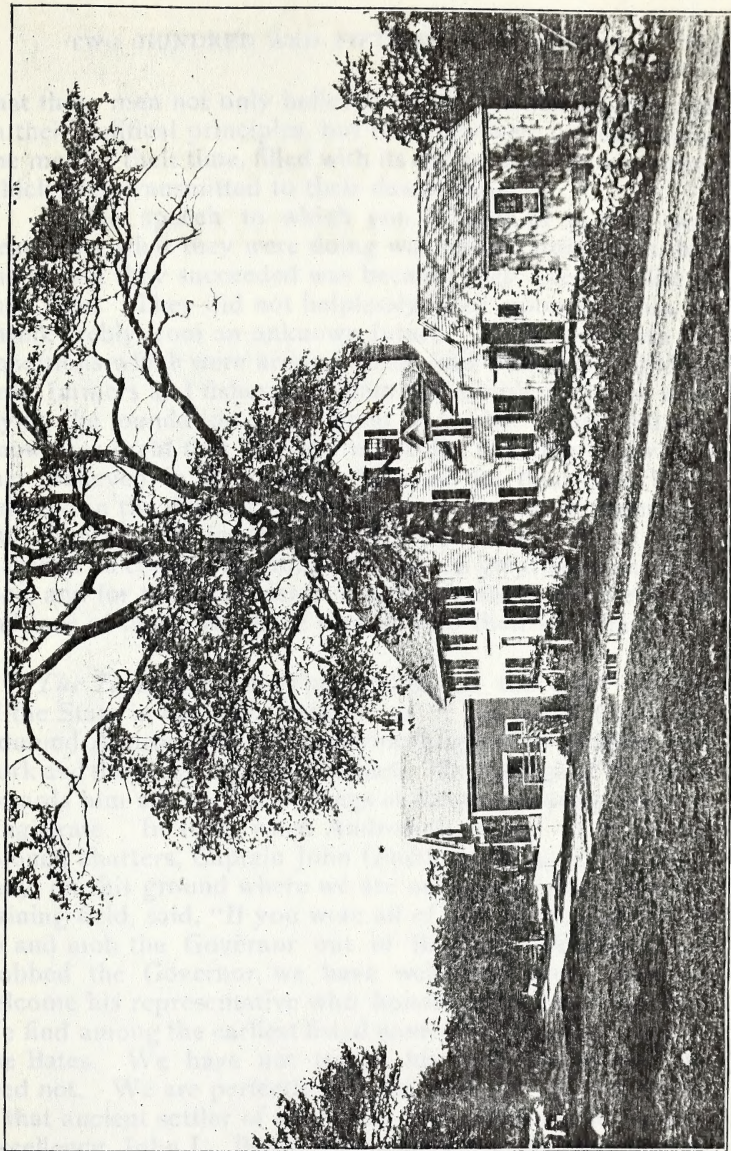
We think of the men who came here in those earlier years as religious reformers, as state builders, and they were both, but we are too apt to forget that it was a time of ferment and revolution among the English speaking people, and that other passions and desires were also stirring in their hearts. The men who landed at Salem and who settled Essex county brought with them the language which Shakespeare uttered on his death bed, in which Bacon delivered his judgments, and which Milton was lisping at his mother's knee. It was a great and splendid period, exuberant in life and thought and hope.

It was the age of adventure as well as the age of religious and political revolution, and the Puritans who came here were moved first, no doubt, by the spirit of reformation, that they might have their own church, and their own state under a new sky, but they were also adventurers and pioneers, researchers after new worlds to conquer. The people thus planted here were destined eventually to spread all over the New World, for after they had settled upon the coast their first move was toward the West. They began even then to expand.

Topsfield does not seem very far away from Salem to-day and yet it was both conquest and expansion to come here. I suppose many of you have read, if not, it would be well for you to do so, a book called "The Wonder-working Providence of Zion's Saviour in New England." If, judging from the title, you think it is a purely religious work, you are much mistaken. It is a book of travel and adventure. The author describes the first voyage of men of our race up the Mystic River. Remember, even while you smile, that a tributary of the Congo or the Amazon is not so remote or strange as the Mystic River was to Englishmen in that day. Soon after they began that march up the Mystic to Woburn, another party pushed through the forest and planted at Springfield. It was a very slow movement for many years but always they were sinking the foundations of the colony strong and deep and always they were moving westward.

When the revolution came, New England was still largely a wilderness. After the Revolution, the great immigration to the farther west began, and this New England stream of population from the colonies which the Puritans planted at Plymouth and Salem spread all over the United States.

This great stream began to flow to the westward at the close of the last century, but in 1849, New England men went across the Isthmus, and round the Cape, and settled on the shores of the Pacific. Now the two wings have come together and the frontiers have vanished. Earlier than that they had settled down in Hawaii, at the cross-roads of the Pacific, and to-day, the flag floats from Salem harbor, where they landed, to Honolulu, the centre of the Pacific ocean. It has been a great career and it has come out of the fact



THE ALMSHOUSE, ERECTED IN 1769

that those men not only believed deeply in their religion and in their political principles, but that they were pre-eminently the men of their time, filled with its daring spirit of adventure which they transmitted to their descendants.

In the speech to which you listened to to-day, you heard that what they were doing was hidden from them, but the reason they succeeded was because they lived the life of their time. They did not helplessly dwell upon the past, or shrink feebly from an unknown future. They dealt with the conditions which were around them, and these men building here, farmers and fishermen, plain and simple Puritans, were laying the foundation of the great republic. They did not know how great that republic would be, but they knew that they believed in themselves, believed in their principles, believed in the democracy of town-meeting, in the independent church, and in the independent state. Thus they marched on conquering and to conquer, a great and victorious race, and for this they deserve remembrance and the praise and love of those who have entered into their inheritance.

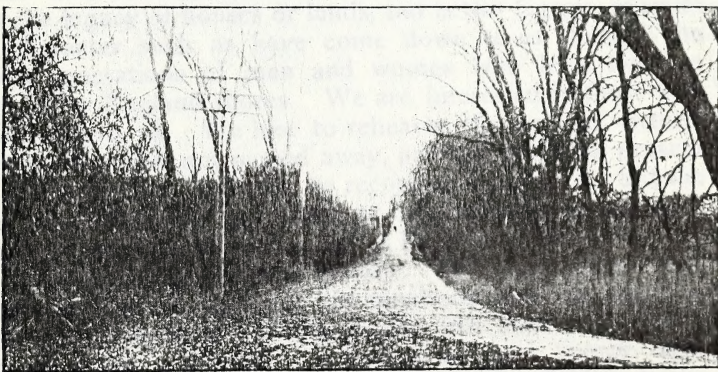
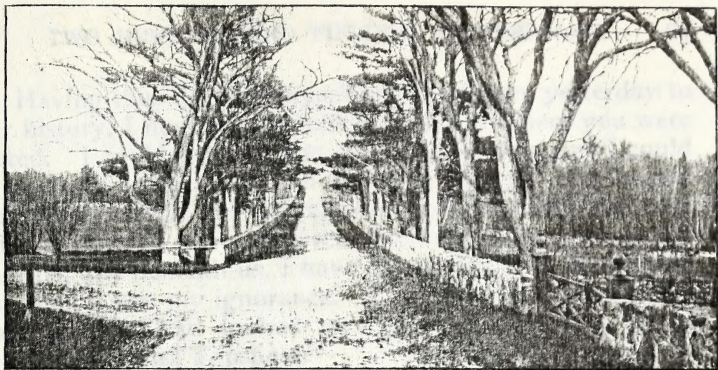
The Toast-master:—The presence of the chief citizens of the State in our town reminds us of an early Governor, Edmund Andros, who was sent from England to tyrannize New York and the New England Colonies. The feelings of Topsfield towards him are not the feelings of the people today for their Magistrate. In 1686, when Andros attempted to seize the colonial charters, Captain John Gould, speaking to his company, on this ground where we are now assembled, then the training-field, said, "If you were all of my mind, you would go and mob the Governor out of Boston." We have not mobbed the Governor, we have welcomed him. And we welcome his representative who honors us at the banquet. We find among the earliest listed names on Topsfield records, one Bates. We have not traced his descendants, and we need not. We are perfectly satisfied with the representative of that ancient settler of our town. His Honor, and coming Excellency, John L. Bates, Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts, will speak on

"The Commonwealth of Massachusetts."

ADDRESS OF HON. JOHN L. BATES.

I regret that the official duties of His Excellency, the Governor, should have taken him from this gathering before he had the opportunity to respond to this toast and to extend to you his congratulations on this occasion. I know it would have given him great pleasure. In his absence, it is, however, a very pleasant duty that devolves upon me.

A reference has just been made by your Toast-master to one Francis Bates who lived here long ago. I should not have known it, if I had not gone into the State Library yesterday and asked the Librarian if he had anything on Topsfield. He brought out several mammoth volumes, which I had not the time to read, and also the historical addresses which were delivered fifty years ago when this town celebrated its two hundredth anniversary. I found in one of the books that the name Francis Bates appeared on the first tax list of this town. I was uncertain as to whether or not he was any relative of mine, but when I discovered that he paid the smallest tax of any one in the town, and that his name disappeared altogether from the list of tax-payers the next year, I made up my mind that he must have been an ancestor. I read other things of interest in that history. One writer referring to an earlier time said:—"even at this day bounties were offered for wolves and so it is readily to be seen that it was a good while before Topsfield ceased to be a howling wilderness." Doubtless history will repeat itself, and fifty years from now, he who writes of this occasion will say, that on this day the town celebrated its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary, and, "amid a raging storm fourteen men responded to toasts, and thus it is readily to be seen that it was a good while before Topsfield ceased to be a howling wilderness."



ON THE BOSTON AND NEWBURYPORT TURNPIKE.

MAIN STREET, FROM THE CORNER OF SUMMER STREET.

THE TURNPIKE, FROM THE CORNER OF MAIN STREET.

Having thus devoted myself at the Library yesterday to your history, I next endeavored to find out where you were located. I could not find you on the time-table, and I could not find you on the map, and finally I gave up and trusted to intuition, which has served me well, to bring me here to-day. But as I have observed the water to-day above us, about us, and beneath us, I have concluded that the trouble was mine, it was my ignorance. I consulted the wrong kind of a map. If I had looked on a chart of the deep sea I should have found Topsfield.

I am here to extend the congratulations of the Commonwealth, to one of its children. Yet I recognize that the town government of Topsfield is much older than the Commonwealth, older than the Province of Massachusetts, for its origin dates from the days of the Colony. There are 353 cities and towns in this Commonwealth. In population, under the census of 1895, you rank as the 250th, but in age you are among the first forty of the towns within our territory.

We are interested in you to-day because you are such a grand type of the old New England town to which the speaker referred this morning. A type of a strong, rugged, and liberty loving community whose deeds it is an inspiration to recall. We recognize that the greatest legacy received from those that have gone, is not the legacy of silver or gold, is not the legacy of houses or lands, but is the legacy of traits of character such as have come down to us through the seven generations of men and women who have lived on these New England shores. We are interested in those who lived before us. We like to rehearse the ancient virtues, virtues that have not passed away, and "to point the present to the olden day," because we recognize that we are but the product of the past; but whatever of hope or encouragement there may be for the future, exists because of the past.

Topsfield has a worthy history. Her early settlers were men who had the courage, the manhood, and the vigor to make for themselves a foothold upon this continent. They withstood all privations. Independence and liberty were born in them. Listen to the voice of Topsfield in town-meeting:—"Should the Continental Congress see fit to declare the independence of these colonies, we the inhabitants of

Topsfield will support that declaration, with our lives and property to the full extent of our power." They meant what they said and they made their declaration good.

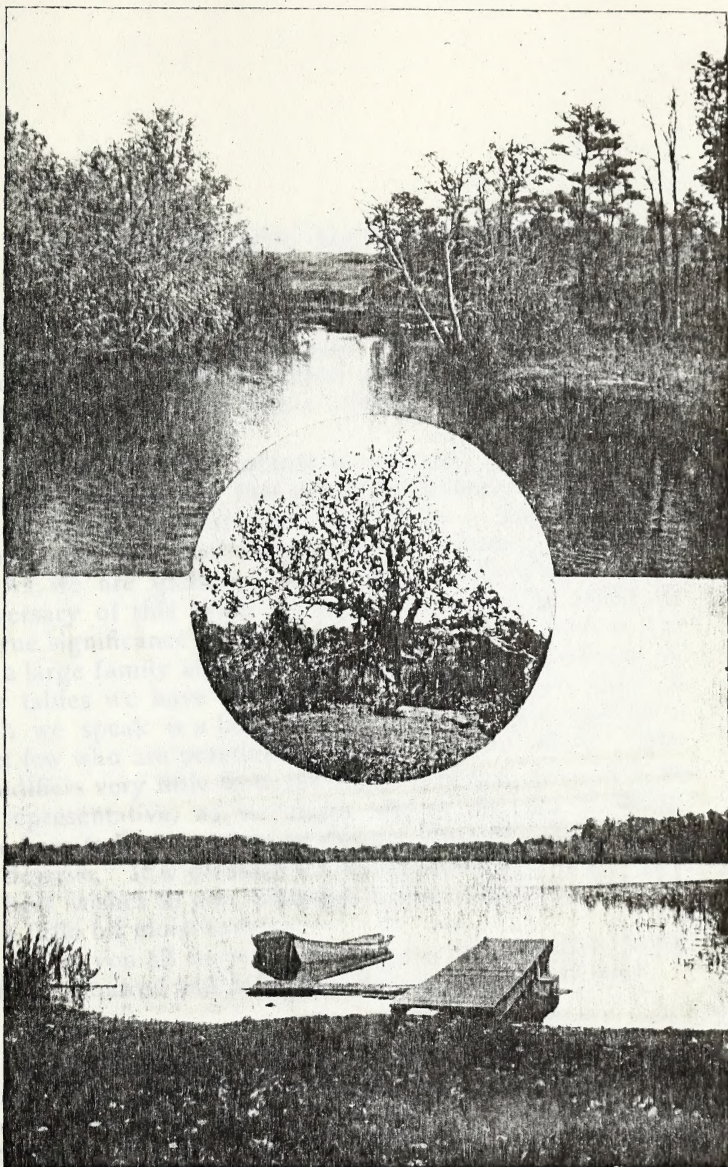
I bring you congratulations because you have exemplified in your history the progress and influence of Massachusetts. Hence I congratulate you on this occasion not only on that which we see, but also on that which is unseen. For the history of Topsfield is not to be made up from the one thousand people who constitute her population to-day, it is not to be made up alone from the people who have lived here the past two hundred and fifty years, it is not confined to these broad acres whose boundaries for two centuries and one-half your town officers have perambulated. No, there is a greater, an unseen Topsfield. For there has gone forth from here as from a fountain, a stream of humanity that has spread throughout the country, and Topsfield is a factor in the thought, activity and life of the nation, through the sons and daughters that she has sent forth.

May you, may she, may all the citizens of this great Commonwealth, be inspired in the future by the same hardy spirit, by the same love of liberty, the same interest in the public welfare, the same honest activity that have characterized her two hundred and fifty years of history.

The Toast-master:—You may have heard of the woman who wanted the thermometer set at 65, for that was what the doctor told her to keep the room at. The committee has instructed me to set it at 65 less 60, after the first two speakers. I must regretfully request therefore that the remaining speakers do not rise too high lest the thermometer be broken and the chronometer fail to record the five minutes limitation.

Twin babies are not uncommon, but twin mothers are seldom heard of. Topsfield is honored with the unusual distinction of having two mothers really her own. I suppose Salem named the child first, when it was very "little." It is highly proper that we should hear from our mothers and that Salem should send one of her "Little" ones to speak for her. I have the pleasure of introducing His Honor, David M. Little, the mayor of Salem, who will respond to the toast

"Our Mother Towns: Salem and Ipswich."



NEAR ROWLEY BRIDGE.

OAK TREE, OVER 400 YEARS OLD.

HOOD'S POND, LOOKING SOUTHWARD.

ADDRESS OF HON. DAVID M. LITTLE.

I was fully warned before I came here, by a letter from Mr. Dow, that I was to speak only three and not more than five minutes. Now Mr. President if you will kindly put the watch on me and when I have spoken three minutes I will stop.

The president has spoken of a mistake which I noticed on the programme and that was "Our Mother Towns." As you all know, it is perfectly possible for a man to have a mother and a step mother, but he can not have two mothers.

As we are gathered here today to celebrate the 250th anniversary of this town, we are having brought before us the true significance of the town. It is nothing more or less than a large family and as we have been seated here today at these tables we have seemed like a family. This town of which we speak is a large family, and it is governed by a select few who are practically the head of that family. The town differs very little from the state except in size and I, as the representative, as we might say, of the city of Salem come here today to extend to you the congratulations which you deserve. It is pleasant for me to come here and extend my best wishes to you, although I must say your welcome was a little bit moist today.

I wish you all success and that you may prosper in the next two hundred and fifty years as you have in the past.

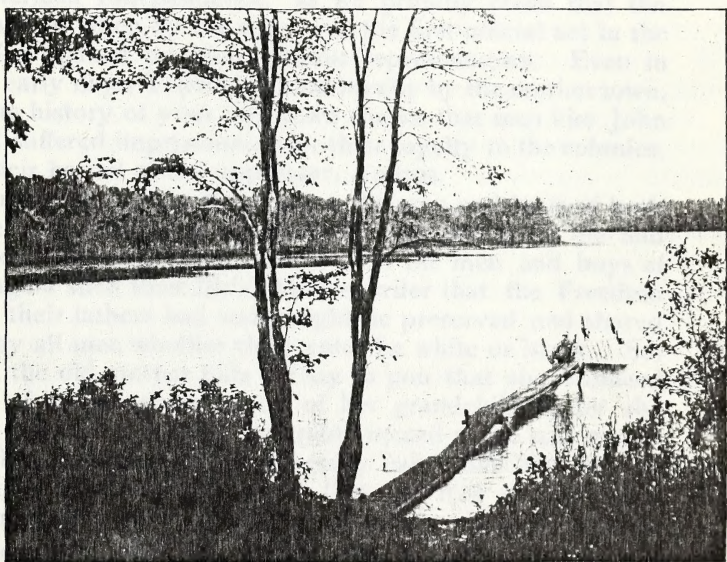
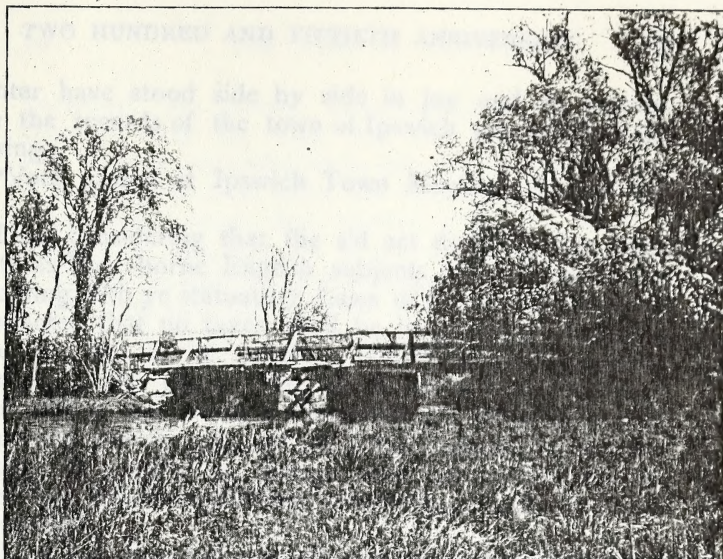
The Toast-master:—The town grew, the garden became a field. The other mother seems also to have named the child, and she liked the name so well that she keeps a part of it for a child of her immediate household. Ipswich sends greetings to Topsfield by Mr. George A. Schofield, Chairman of her Selectmen will speak on

"Our Mother Towns: Salem and Ipswich."

ADDRESS OF MR. GEORGE A. SCHOFIELD.

Mr. Chairman, Sons and Daughters of Topsfield, and Friends:

In every country upon this earth, whether it be in the sun-kissed tropics; mid the icy cold of the polar regions, or in our own grand temperate zone, it is an acknowledged fact that a mother's love is the strongest love of all, and today, standing here to speak for the old mother town of Ipswich, I assure you that among the thousands who vie with each other to extend their congratulations to you, and to feel joy and pride at the success of this, your 250th anniversary, there are none who are more earnest and sincere than are the people of old Ipswich. Topsfield is 250 years young, not old, today. I say young, for there is no evidence of old age about your beautiful town. Your fertile valleys, green hills and pine groves, give every evidence that here Nature has met with better success in the search for the fountain of youth, than did he who sought it in the valley of the Mississippi so many years ago. Your people can indeed be congratulated as fortunate residents of a town, which while it has not seized upon all so-called improvements, has selected with wisdom such modern ideas as go to make your homes beautiful and pleasant, without destroying the grand work of Nature, which to all lovers of true beauty, so surpasses the puny efforts of man. You have here that delightful blending of characteristics, which go to make an ideal New England Town, and search where you will there are none fairer. Nearly three hundred years ago, there came from a foreign land a band of those sturdy men who laid the foundation for this glorious Republic. Down by the sea was established the good old town of Ipswich. A few years later she gave birth to Topsfield, and for two centuries and a half, mother and



ROWLEY BRIDGE, OVER THE IPSWICH RIVER
HOOD'S POND, FROM POOR'S POINT.

daughter have stood side by side in joy and in sorrow. Upon the records of the town of Ipswich you will find the following:

"Vote passed at Ipswich Town Meeting, August 23, 1687.

Then considering that the s'd act doth infringe their Liberty as Free borne English subjects of his Majestie by interfering with ye statutory Laws of the Land, By which it is enacted that no taxes shall be levied on ye Subjects without consent of an assembly chosen by ye Freeholders for assessing the same: They do therefore vote, that they are not willing too choose a Commissioner for such an end, without said previledges, and moreover consent not that the Selectmen do proseed to lay any such rate, until it be Appointed by a General Assembly, concurring with ye Governor and Counsell."

Upon our town seal you will find the words, "Birthplace of American Independence," as we proudly claim that the action then taken by the town was the first official act in the colonies against taxation without representation. Even in those early days, Topsfield stood loyally by the mother town, and the history of your own town shows, that men like John Gould suffered imprisonment for their loyalty to the colonies, and their hatred of the oppressor, Andros.

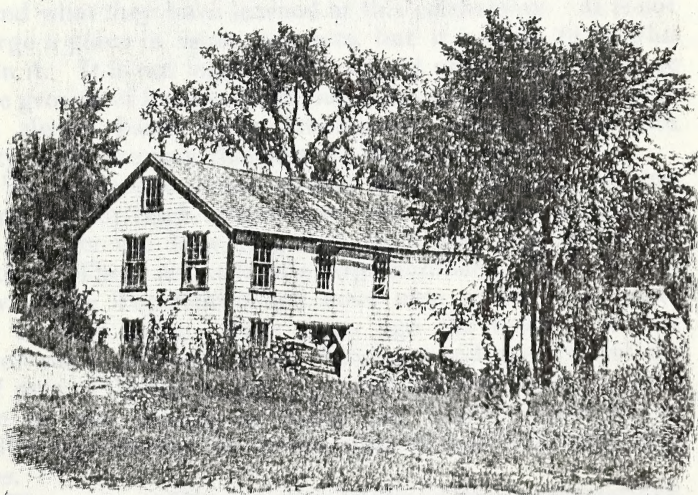
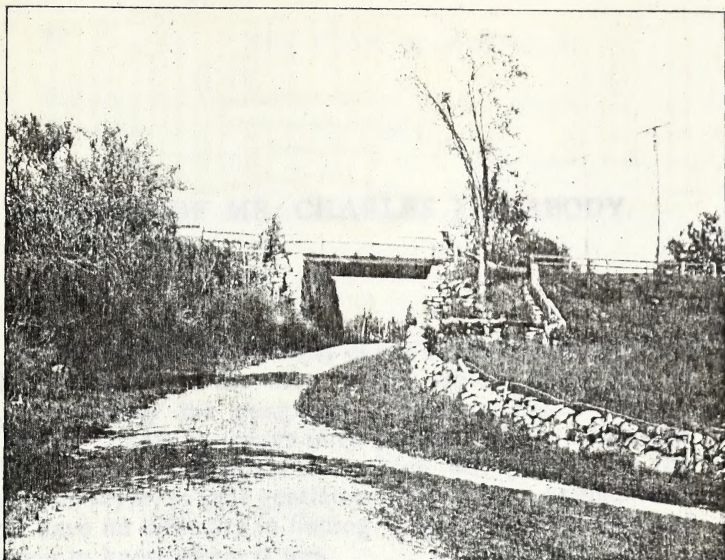
In the war of the Revolution, the men and boys of both mother and daughter fought side by side, and gave life and limb for Freedom's cause, and in 1861 the men and boys of both again shed their life's blood in order that the Freedom which their fathers had won, might be preserved and shared alike by all men whether their color be white or black. So, today, the old mother bids me say to you that she is indeed proud of her daughter, proud of her grandchildren, for she knows full well that your honorable record of the past would again be duplicated should necessity call. She bids me say also, that she does not forget that the true mother takes greater pride in hearing the praises of her children sung by others, rather than by herself, and it is my duty as her representative to bear that in mind, and not to take up the time which is allotted to others here today. So Mr. President I will close, by extending to you and to the people of

Topsfield, the sincere congratulations of the people of Ipswich; and the hope that this anniversary celebration will be long remembered as one of both pleasure and profit to you all, and that when the next anniversary celebration shall come around, that whether it be given to us all to be present or not, that the people of 1950 will find Topsfield, then as now, true to the grand example set her by her sons in the past, and then, as now, may Old Glory, the emblem of liberty, float triumphant over a nation of happy, loyal people of whom none shall be happier, none more loyal than those of fair Topsfield.

The Toast-master.—The Town of Topsfield. It was not always thus. New Meadows was its earlier name. What was its origin? Who can tell? Probably it will remain a conjecture. Here, however, is a pertinent suggestion. A now prominent resident remarking to one of our old townsmen the great similarity of the natural scenery of Topsfield to that of Kent County, England, received this quick reply, "New Meadows, a fitting name from the old meadows of the mother country."

A direct descendent from one of the earliest and one of the most distinguished settlers, and whose father spoke at the celebration fifty years ago, will now address you. Mr. Charles J. Peabody of Topsfield will respond to the toast

"The Town of Topsfield."



THE DRY BRIDGE.

THE HOBBS-DONALDSON GRIST MILL, BUILT IN 1740-41.

ADDRESS OF MR. CHARLES J. PEABODY.

To the fact of the inability of one of the former speakers to find Topsfield on the map or time table, I would like to say, it is exactly the geographical centre of Essex County, and Essex County is always to be found. About a half mile to the east of us stands a tree which was planted by the county surveyor, so that gentlemen from Boston or elsewhere might have no difficulty in finding Topsfield when they had occasion to know where it was.

Gathered here today, I suppose there are a great many people who know very little about the town of Topsfield beyond what they have learned at this celebration. It is not so large a place in some respects, but it is large to us who live in it. It is not large in the extent of its population, or in the growth of its industries, but in the value that its citizens have always based upon intelligence, education and the ability to do the task that was set before its people.

We are proud of our school system. During a recent vacancy in our High school there were over seventy teachers from all over the New England states who applied for the position. There are at least a large number of teachers who know where Topsfield is and were able to find it on some map or time table. Fifty years ago the teacher of that school was a graduate of an Academy and was one of the chief men of the town, and we greatly appreciate the progress made by our people, for today our school affords just as good an opportunity for an education as any of the adjoining towns.

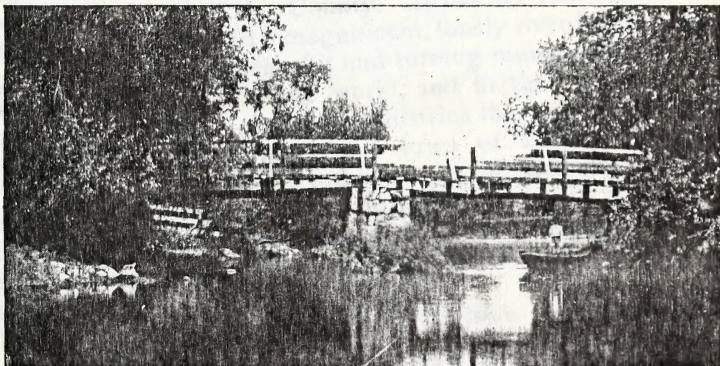
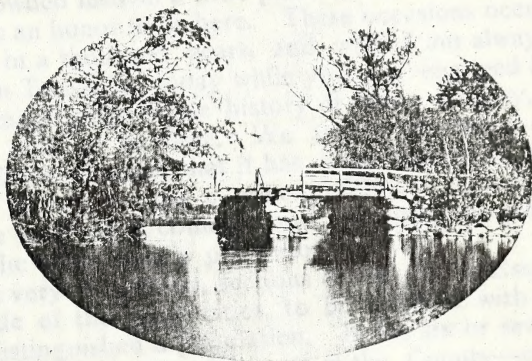
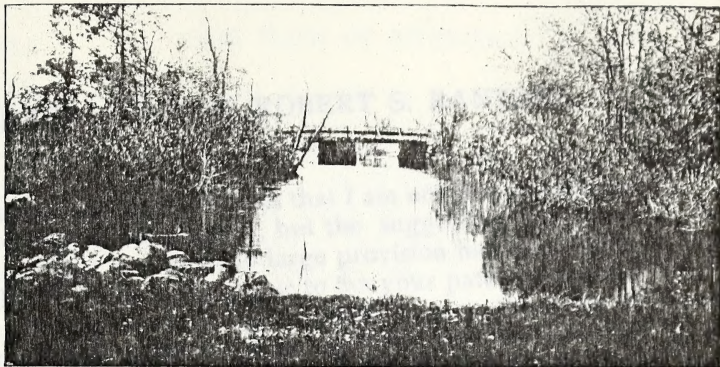
The orator of fifty years ago spoke of the Crowningshield farm, now the Pierce estate, as being like an emerald in beauty. We are fortunate as a town that men of taste and means have owned it, from that day to this; and now under

the care and ownership of our Chief Marshal it rests like a jewel on the crown of the town.

We welcome the rich man who seeks a commanding location to establish a summer home. We welcome every man, rich or otherwise, who seeks the good of the community. We welcome all you who have come to us today and though the weather is unfavorable now, come on almost any other day of the year and we will give you a welcome that will be dry and will send you home dry; if you are disposed to go that way.

The Toast-Master:—It was Hosea Ballou who said, "History makes haste to record great deeds, but often neglects good ones," and Carlyle said, "Histories are as perfect as the historian is wise and is gifted with an eye and a soul." There is one with us who has not neglected the "good deeds," and who has "an eye and a soul," whose accuracy and fidelity in research have made his publications as historian and author of real worth. The Hon. Robert S. Rantoul, President of the Essex Institute, will favor us.

"Local History in Essex County."



ROWLEY BRIDGE.

TOWNE'S BRIDGE.

RIVER BRIDGE.

ADDRESS OF HON. ROBERT S. RANTOUL.

I want to say to my friends that I am not here to criticise their excellent arrangements, but the suggestion has been made to me that possibly too large provision had been made for the floats. I do not purpose to tax your patience beyond a single moment in which I may simply express the sense of obligation which I feel towards Topsfield and the sense of duty which I feel towards the Essex Institute, since you have made in this crowded festival a little place for us to be heard.

I think it is an honor to be here. These occasions occur but four times in a thousand years, and while I am always happy to be in Topsfield, today while you are engaged in writing this pleasant page in the history of Essex County, I am especially glad to be here. We are in the habit of claiming for Essex County that it has more history to the acre than any county on the continent of North America. It is one of the very oldest counties, and, excluding the great cities, one of the most densely populated.

There are very few, if any, sections of the size of Essex County, outside of the great cities, to be credited with so large and so distinguished a population. It has six or seven thriving cities, one the great fish-mart of the County—one the great shoe-factory of the County. It has its half-dozen advantageous sea-ports and a magnificent, lordly river flowing through the northern section of it and turning more spindles than any stream of water in the world, and in the center of this great swarming hive of varied industries there must be a pivotal town, and that town is the town of Topsfield,—geographically so placed, a worthy center of this fine old community. In the olden times, the old stage-coach days, it was in a sense the County Metropolis,—the center of the scientific, literary, political and agricultural activities of the county.

It gives me much pleasure to be here today as a representative, if I may say so, of the one Historical Society embracing the entire county. I most heartily congratulate you upon your distinguished history as portrayed by the

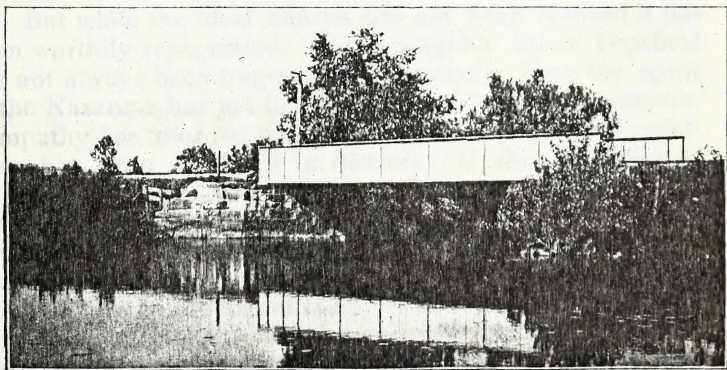
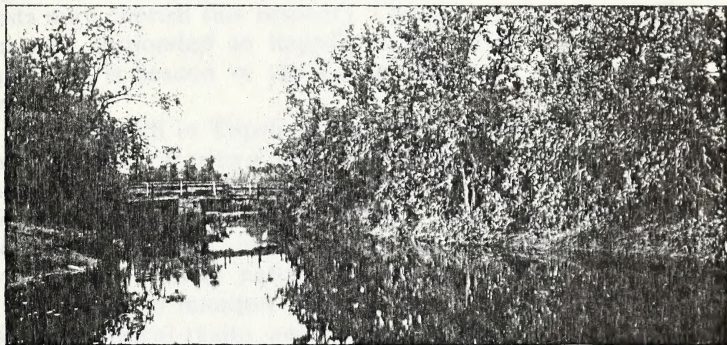
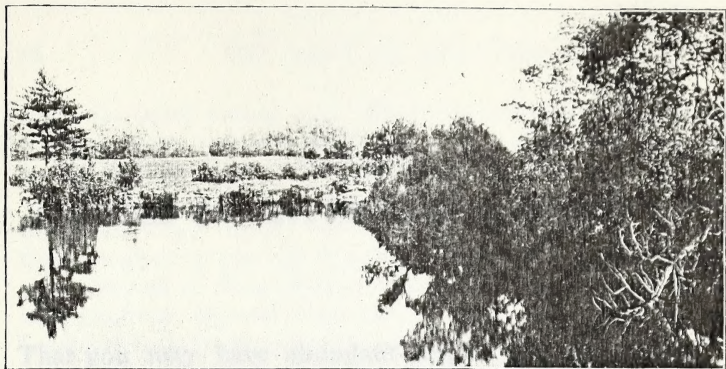
various speakers, and especially on the claims made by the last speaker in behalf of your school system. I think, however, there is another point not so much alluded to which may be counted to the credit of Topsfield and it is this, and I think it may not improperly be emphasized here, that she is a typical representative of the healthy old-fashioned New England town democracy, if you please, standing rather alone, rather aside and independent of her neighbors—standing on her own merits, and she has her historical merits. A beautiful, a perfect object lesson of the old fashioned idea, and yet it does not seem to be old fashioned in any proper sense, of New England town autonomy.

It is as good to live in a small community, as in a great city, and to me there is a special attraction here: every citizen knows all about every other citizen. When you are called on at March meeting to select your town magnates, you are not picking, as we of the larger places are forced to do, among strangers. Nor is the place too small to be worthy of the honest pride which every citizen takes in his contributions to the general advance and substantial interests of his little home community. Distant be the day when Topsfield shall have outgrown its town autonomy!

I hold her up then as a model in this respect. I like to be here to gaze upon her grassy hill-sides and to breath the bracing air of this high region, but I like especially to be here to contemplate Topsfield as a fit survival of our old-time, New England town autonomy, enshrined as she is amidst her rural beauty, like a little, miniature republic, in the heart of Essex County, just as Switzerland, the oldest republic of them all, sits enthroned amidst her Alpine grandeur, in the heart of Europe.

The Toast-master:—The church has ever been a vital factor in the life of the New England town. Indeed the history of the church is in a great degree the history of the town. The Rev. Francis A. Poole of Weymouth, Mass., and a recent pastor of the local Congregational church, will speak upon this interesting subject.

"The Church in Topsfield."



VIEWS ON THE IPSWICH RIVER. THE RAILROAD BRIDGE.

ADDRESS OF REV. FRANCIS A. POOLE.

That you may have abundant respect for the present religious life of Topsfield (and especially that our invited guests may cherish this respect), I would say that the gentleman who responded so happily to the toast "The Town of Topsfield", is deacon of the Congregational Church of this town.

The Church in Topsfield is a miniature of the Church in New England. For two and a half centuries it has moulded thought and action and what the history of the Town would have been without it no man knows. The Church in Topsfield has not been the ideal church for the actual church is never such. Human nature with all its weakness and perversity is sure to manifest itself, in the ecclesiastical as well as in the political realm, and human nature, I need not say, has found a dwelling-place among these hills.

But while the ideal church has not been realized it has been worthily represented. If the religious life of Topsfield has not always been fragrant with brotherly love, the spirit of the Nazarene has yet found sweet and helpful expression. Sympathy has afforded comfort in time of sorrow and assistance has been rendered in distress. If the preaching of Topsfield pulpits (like every other pulpit known to time) has presented truth in a solution of error, the truth, nevertheless, has been proclaimed. The splendid manhood of Jesus Christ has been portrayed before the people. Ideals of holy living have been set forth, their beauty to be admired, their power to be felt. With utmost faith in virtue and to the praise of the Most High, the thoughts of Topsfield youths and maidens have been directed to what is pure and true and just and lovely and of good report. And some of the best citizens of the Town, whose work was largest, whose

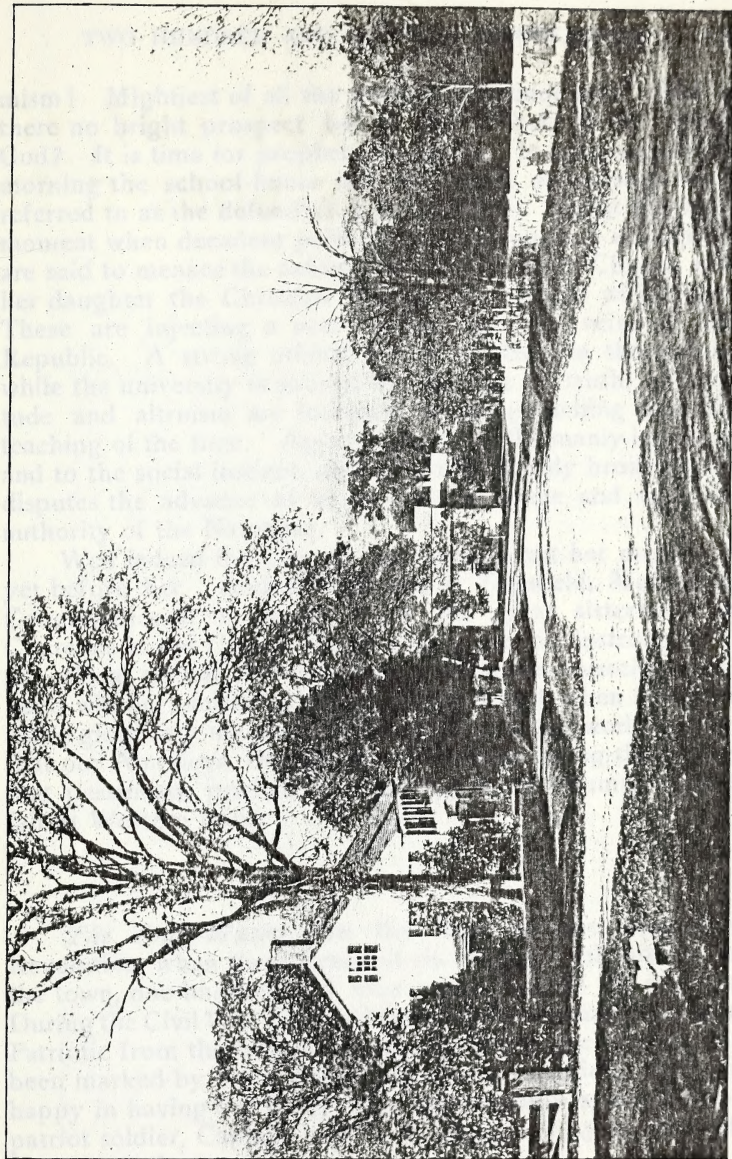
influence most potent and whose memory is most sacredly revered, were nurtured in the life that is useful and honorable by the ministrations of the Christian Church.

The moral superiority of Christian principles is recognized on every hand; the integrity and piety of the days that are gone no one can question and the Town of Topsfield, with the rest of New England and all these United States, has profited beyond our ability to estimate because our forefathers came here to worship God.

And so the Church in Topsfield stands upon its record. It is a record not always creditable. Yet it proves I think, beyond the possibility of a contrary verdict, that the Church has mightily blessed the Town. This of the Church in the past; this of the record that is made and of the influence that has been exerted. But what of the present and of the years that are to come? It is but a mockery and a waste of time to study and exalt the past unless it have power to instruct and inspire with relation to the coming time. And what of the Church in Topsfield in the years that are yet in store? The Church of the past I revere, the Church of the present I love, but it is the Church of the future for which I pray.

I am aware of the dangers of prophecy, and this tale of an English clergyman comes forcibly to mind. He was baptizing a little child and something in the face before him appealed to his imagination. He was moved to make a speech. "Behold this child! I predict for him an honorable career. This child may lead armies on to the field of battle. This child may address a wondering Senate and his eloquence be received with applause. Yes, who knows? He may become Archbishop of Canterbury or Prime Minister of England." And then turning to the father, he asked the child's name and the father answered, "Mary Ann." And so it is. We make our prophecy and some perverse circumstance that has eluded us brings our prediction all to naught.

I am aware, too, of the pessimism of the time. The Church has competitors now for popular favor. Her congregations are diminishing. Her power is on the wane. The issue of her life is not yet apparent but the tendencies are such as to arouse the gravest fears. Discouraging Pessi-



LOOKING DOWN PINGREE'S HILL.
Showing the Pingree Farm-house and Residence of B. J. Balch.

mism! Mightiest of all the devices of Satanic art! And is there no bright prospect before the church of the living God? It is time for prophecy to speak. In the oration this morning the school-house and the house of worship were referred to as the defenders of the Nation. And at the very moment when decadent politics and unscrupulous monopoly are said to menace the national life, the Christian Church and her daughter the Christian College are radiant with hope. These are injecting a new vitality into the veins of the Republic. A strong ethical gospel is heard in the pulpit, while the university is swayed by the love of truth. Rectitude and altruism are foremost in the preaching and the teaching of the time. Appeal is made to the manly impulses and to the social instinct, and even now already brotherhood disputes the advance of avarice, in the name and with the authority of the Nazarene.

Well indeed the Church has wrought but her mission is yet before her. And the Church in Topsfield, Methodist, Congregational, in league with the great sisterhood of Churches in the United States is to prove an instrument in the ethical revival that is coming; when our sovereign manhood will be exalted to a higher plane, and when it will be made gloriously manifest, in the sight of all this world beside, that our American Democracy so far from being the failure that pessimists predict, is marching to its triumph in this fairest Western Land.

The Toast-Master.—In the time of the American Revolution, when there were but six hundred inhabitants in the town, one hundred and nine were enrolled as soldiers. During the Civil War Topsfield furnished more than her quota. Patriotic from the beginning, her service to the country has been marked by brave deeds and heroic sacrifice. We are happy in having one today who can worthily speak for our patriot soldier, Captain John G. B. Adams of Lynn, who will respond to the toast,

"The Patriot Soldier—Topsfield in War."

ADDRESS OF CAPT. JOHN G. B. ADAMS.

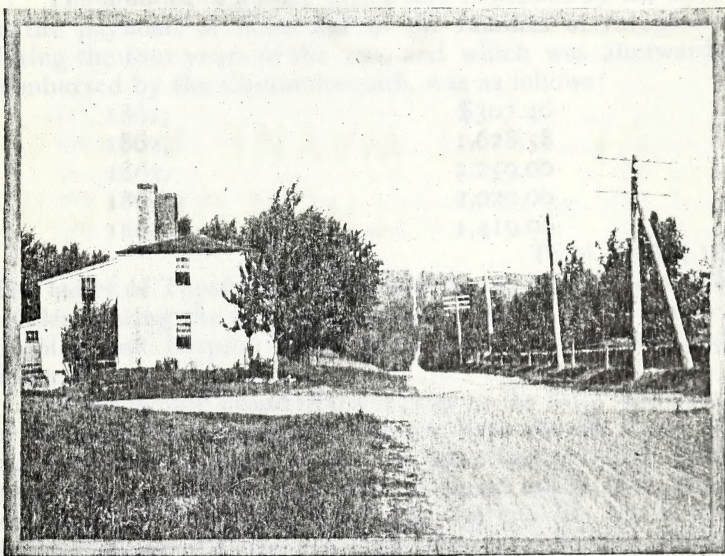
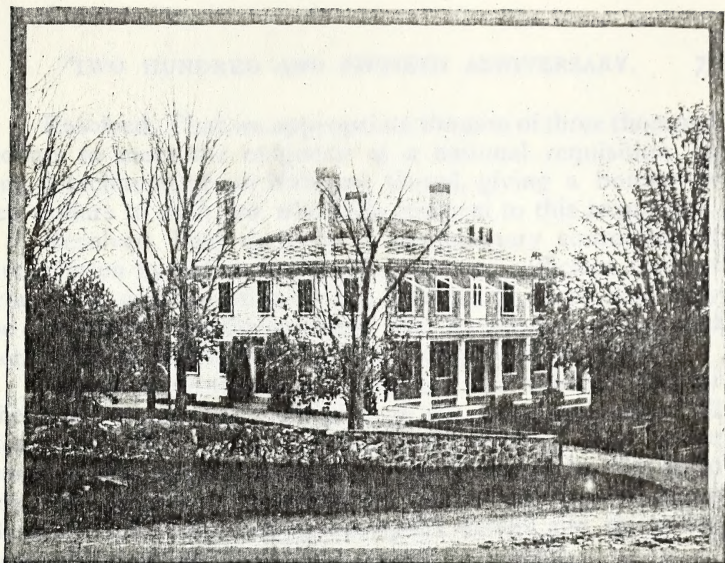
Mr. Toast-master:—I am more fortunate than the other speakers because I have just received a message from the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, giving me their time, so I have fifteen minutes instead of five. I have listened attentively to the reference to the weather, and am reminded of a little incident in the war. An Irishman in my old company was on guard in a drenching rain. The Colonel, passing his beat, said,—“Michael, I am sorry to see you so wet.” “Colonel,” he said, “I wouldn’t mind being so wet if I wasn’t so dry.”

I am to speak for the soldiers of Topsfield. I did not represent this town in the war, but was a soldier from Essex County. I remember, after enlisting in the early days of ’61, I started with two others on the march from Groveland to Salem. We stopped at Topsfield on the way and enjoyed the hospitality of the town. Undoubtedly our appearance on that occasion inspired many men to rush to the front.

The Lieutenant-Governor has referred to his visit to the State Library to find material for a speech. We have worked the Library at the State House pretty well to ascertain what to say about Topsfield, and I find the following from Schouler’s “History of Massachusetts in the Civil War”:—

“Preamble and Resolutions:—Considering the present position of our country, not as waging war against the South, nor a party device, but an essay of the people to sustain their own rights, preserve their own institutions, give efficiency to their own laws, invigorate their execution, and perpetuate the inheritance of our fathers unimpaired,—

Resolved, That we, the loyal people of Topsfield, in town-meeting assembled, constitute ourselves a National Guard for the preservation of our national integrity.



RESIDENCE OF DAVID PINGREE.

THE OLD TOLL HOUSE AND THE TURNPIKE

Resolved, That we appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars to meet the exigency of a national requisition on any detachment of our National Guard, giving a bounty of ten dollars to each one who may conform to this requisition.

Resolved, That there be a discretionary committee of five, chosen by ballot, to furnish good and sufficient support from such appropriation to the families of those who may be detailed by our Government into its service, giving said committee power to draw on our treasury for the same."

Topsfield furnished one hundred and thirteen men for the war, which was a surplus of six over and above all demands. Five were commissioned officers. The whole amount of money appropriated and expended by the town for war purposes, exclusive of State aid, was fourteen thousand seven hundred and forty-six dollars and thirty-five cents (\$14,746.35).

The amount of money raised and expended by the town in the payment of State aid to the families of volunteers during the four years of the war, and which was afterwards reimbursed by the Commonwealth, was as follows:

1861,	\$307.46
1862,	1,628.58
1863,	2,259.00
1864,	2,020.00
1865,	1,419.06

Total, \$7,634.10

The ladies of Topsfield worked heartily in the cause of the soldiers during the war, and forwarded to the army money, clothing and hospital stores to the value of five hundred dollars.

While we are proud of our service in the army and navy of the Union during the war, we have been equally proud of our records as citizens since. It was expected that when more than 1,000,000 men were mustered out in 1865, they would return demoralized and unfit for civil life, but in the Adjutant-General's report of 1865 I find the following, which shows that the men from this town returned as good citizens, if not better, than they went away,—

'I have not been able to find any returned soldier guilty of crime, or hardly a case of drunkenness or a loafer, but all,

or nearly all, have gone quietly to work in some useful employment, and I think some have improved in morals. I know of none that have grown worse.

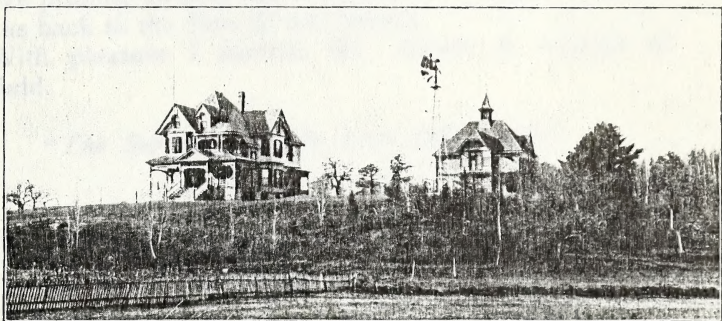
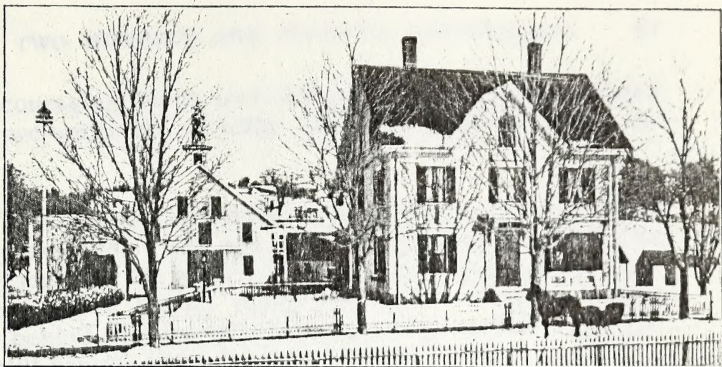
Jacob Foster, Chairman Selectmen.'

No soldier, whatever his political faith may be, can help being proud of the fact that the boy who carried a musket in the ranks of the old Army of the Potomac as a private soldier, who as a Lieutenant rode with Sheridan up the Valley in 1864, is to-day President of the United States and Commander-in-chief of our army and navy.

I was personally acquainted with but two men who enlisted from this town. One was James Dunlap, who was killed July 30, 1864; the other Nathan H. Roberts, who served with me in the ranks of the old 19th. Massachusetts, and starved to death in a rebel prison rather than renounce the oath of allegiance to the Union and take the oath of the Southern Confederacy.

We have sometimes thought, since the war, that the patriotism was exhausted when we were mustered out of the service; that the young men of to-day were possibly not as loyal and true to duty as the boys of '61, but when the call came in '98, we found that the boys of to-day responded just as promptly and served just as faithfully as did the men in the Civil War. We, who fought in the war of the Rebellion, were anxious that if possible the war with Spain might be averted. No man, who has ever been actually engaged in battle, is anxious to pass through it again, but when the President issued his proclamation and the call came, we old boys stood solidly behind him and said to the young men,—“Go ahead, but if you can't whip them send for us and we will come and help you out.”

In the war of the Rebellion the soldier hated nothing more than the man who stayed at home and found fault. Nothing gave aid and comfort to the enemy so much as the cry that the war was a failure and ought to cease. The same is true to-day. The boys who are fighting in the far-off Philippines and in China need the encouragement of all the loyal people. They are wearing the same uniform and following the same flag as did the soldiers whom you honor by your toast to-day, and let us at all times give them nothing



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC M. WOODBURY.

"BIRCHMONT," RESIDENCE OF ALBERT A. CONANT.

RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM H. HERRICK.

but encouraging words, and wait until after peace is declared before we undertake to settle questions growing out of the war.

The Toast-master.—The next speaker will tell us about "fifty years ago." He will stand on the threshold between the present and the past. And this reminds me of an advertisement which I read some time ago. "Wanted, a man partly behind the counter and partly out of doors." Query: what will happen when the door slams?

We promise to hold the door for our brother while he leads us back to the days of our fathers.

With pleasure I present Mr. Albert A. Conant of Topsfield.

"The Survivors of the Last Celebration."

ADDRESS OF MR. ALBERT A. CONANT.

The magnetic half-century festival brings back the survivors of our last anniversary with the freshness of youth yet on their brows. "Still lovely in their strength as is the light of a dark eye in woman. Time writes no wrinkles on their brows. Eternal summer gilds them yet, and they wait the softening, overpowering knell, the tocsin of the soul—the dinner bell."

We can enumerate living in our midst a large number, many of whom are present today, who were born in the first and second decades of the nineteenth century and their lengthened scores of years are crowned with that peace of mind which is the recompense for well spent lives.

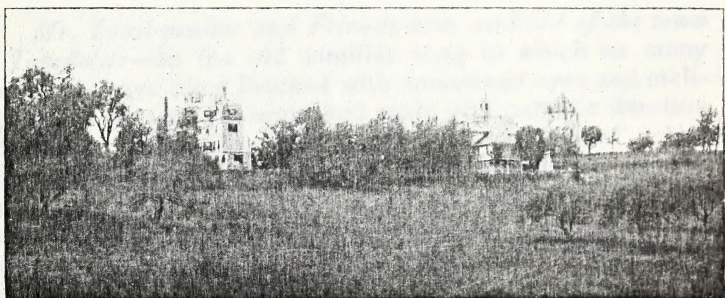
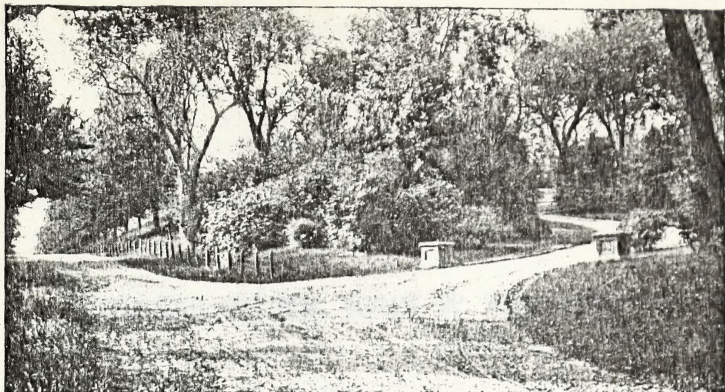
The names of those who were principals in our last anniversary celebration have to-day come back to us to be honored and loved; they are Balch, Batchelder, Cleaveland, Conant, Gould, Hood, Kimball, Lake, Merriam, Peabody and Perkins.

To the fair sex who bore a prominent part in our last celebration we would pay a tribute of respect, and I quote from an old writer who said: "O woman! lovely woman! Nature made thee to temper man; we had been brutes without you. Angels are painted fair, to look like you. There is in you all that we believe of heaven; amazing brightness, purity and truth, eternal joy and everlasting love."

The Toast-master:—My earliest recollection of the next speaker was of cousin John in the East School-house reading, with a voice I shall never forget, Isaac McLellan's patriotic lines. "New England's dead! New England's dead! On every hill they lie," etc.

He was to me, a child commencing school life, an ideal. But what grander ideals he has reached since that time of beginnings. His success for many years as scholar and teacher in Essex County is known to this assembly. He will speak for the non-resident sons of Topsfield. Mr. John W. Perkins, Superintendent of the Public Schools of Salem.

"The Non-Resident Sons of Topsfield."



THE THOMAS W. PEIRCE ESTATE.

ADDRESS OF MR. JOHN W. PERKINS.

Mr. Toast-master and Friends new and old of the town of Topsfield:—In the old familiar song to which so many thousands have often listened with moistened eyes and melting hearts we are told again and again with pathetic iteration "Be it ever so humble, there is no place like home." And what words shall fittingly express one's attachment for the old home when it is one to which not only the returning native but also the passing traveller and the transient visitor have again and again given the name of the fairest of the fair, the loveliest among the most lovely.

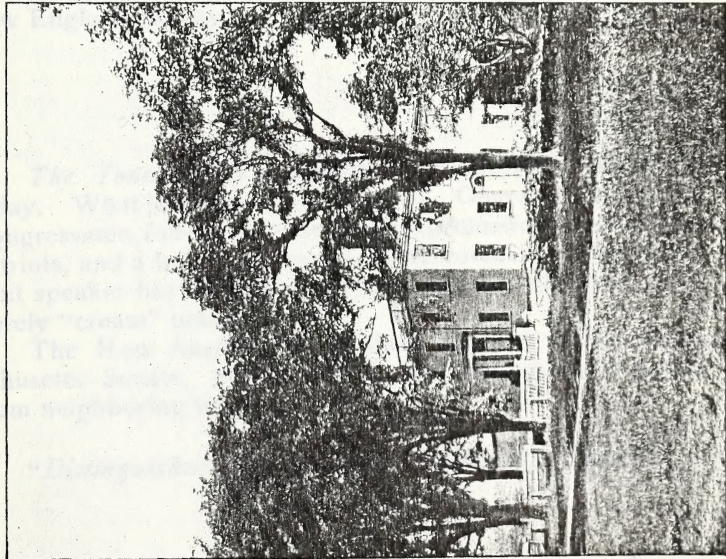
It is natural that to the native who continues to live among the scenes of his childhood they should come to seem somewhat commonplace however striking they may be. But speaking from my own experience as well as from the testimony repeatedly given me by other non-resident sons of Topsfield, I have to say that the power of her beauty grows upon us with every returning visit. I have a pleasing assurance that this impression is grounded upon something more substantial than the unconscious associations of early memories in the fact that my children, all of whom were born and, except for occasional visits, have always lived elsewhere, heartily join with me and endorse my increasing appreciation of the old town. But those of us who were nurtured in her lap and trained at her feet, whose views of life and principles of action have been largely modified by the ideals which we were here taught to reverence, feel that the debt of gratitude which we owe her for her virtues surpasses that of admiration for her outward attractions.

We read the opening lines of that simple but immortal poem, "The Deserted Village," by Oliver Goldsmith, and, as we follow his vivid deliniation of the pictures and innocent pastimes of the rural scene, we feel and count it a privilege that we can feel that with a few minor and superficial changes we have seen it all, we were once a part of it all here. And as the poet goes on to portray the prominent personalities of his beloved Auburn, again we feel that, in strongly pronounced individuality, in intellectual vigor, in sincere, helpful and practical religious faith we have here seen their counterparts. It would be a pleasant service, briefly to sketch characteristics of those who were leading members of this community fifty years ago, and who bore, each his part in making the celebration of that year the conspicuous success that it proved to be. But time forbids that I should even enter upon the honorable list of noble men and noble women, whom to meet was to respect, whom to know was to honor, and whose memory is forever with us a precious legacy.

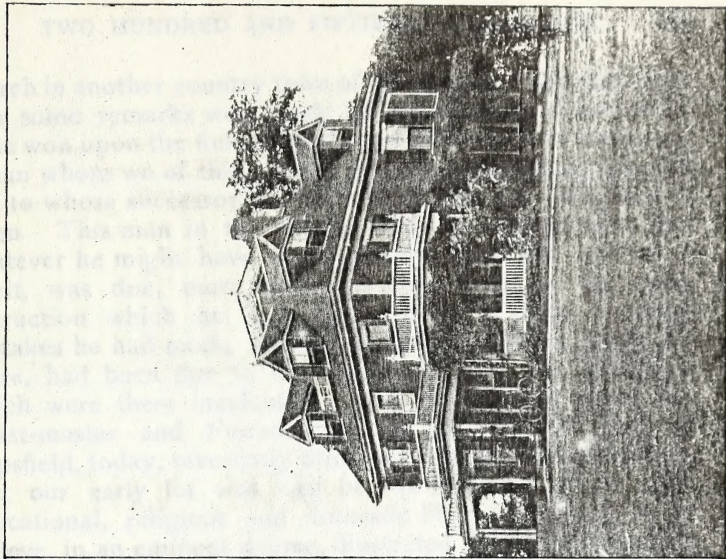
Reference has been made here and very fittingly and truthfully made to the interest which the town has ever taken in the local system of education. But there is another field of education in which her record is one of which she may well be proud. To more than a common degree has she shown herself interested in the so-called higher education. For many successive years in this last half century one or more of her sons has been found in college or in the higher professional schools. So it naturally comes about today that we find them in all the so-called learned professions as well as holding leading and honorable positions in business and in industrial pursuits in other municipalities and in other states. But whatever may be their occupation and where ever may be their home, today they return at least in thought to hover upon the wings of memory over this the beloved nesting-place of their childhood.

I believe that we should try to keep within the five minutes allotted to these several parts of our programme; but in doing so it is, of course, impossible to do more than briefly hint at a few of the many things one would so much like to say.

A few years ago I attended a memorial service of a



THE EMERSON-HOLMES HOUSE,
NOW THE CONGREGATIONAL PARSONAGE.



"PINELANDS,"
RESIDENCE OF GEORGE L. GOULD.

church in another country town of this county. On that occasion some remarks were made by a gentleman of honorable fame won upon the field of battle and in the halls of Congress, a man whom we of this vicinity for years delighted to honor and to whose successor we have been this day delighted to listen. This man in the course of his address testified that whatever he might have accomplished that was worthy of merit, was due, more than anything else, to the early instruction which he had there received; that whatever mistakes he had made, and he confessed to have made his share, had been due to his departure from the principles which were there inculcated. And in a similar spirit, Mr. Toast-master and Friends, we the non-resident sons of Topsfield, today, reverently bring our tribute of thanksgiving, that our early lot was cast in a community whose civil, educational, religious and domestic life typified and, as we believe, in an eminent degree, illustrated the best of those old fashioned but eternal truths that have pervaded and adorned New England history.

The Toast-master:—Topsfield is covered with honor today. What jewels are in her crown! Governors, Senators, Congressmen, followers of the learned professions, instructors, patriots, and a host from every noble vocation. Surely the next speaker has no mean subject, and he will give us a purely "cream" toast.

The Hon. Augustus P. Gardner, member of the Massachusetts Senate, will represent our distinguished guests from neighboring towns.

"Distinguished Guests From Neighboring Towns."

ADDRESS OF HON. AUGUSTUS P. GARDNER.

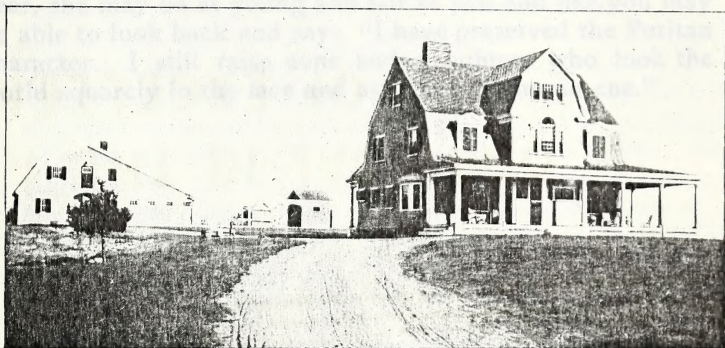
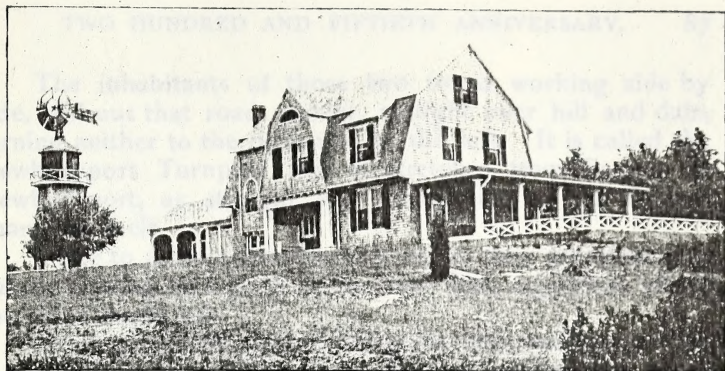
It was with very great pleasure at first that I contemplated the invitation from your chairman to be present at this banquet and share the fatted calf with your returning prodigals; but on further examination I found that my enjoyment was to be modified by the necessity of delivering an address; on no account, as your chairman put it, to exceed five minutes.

That it was the town of Hamilton, from which a representative was chosen to respond to this toast, I look upon as a tribute from extreme old age to extreme youth; of the older sister Topsfield, now passing her 250th milestone, to a blushing maiden of some one hundred summers, the town of Hamilton.

It is always a pleasure for Hamilton people to come to Topsfield, and I for one always enjoy it, particularly as I think Topsfield the most beautiful place in the world. I think her daughters the fairest and her sons the bravest of all the children of Adam.

Perhaps I may have made a somewhat similar statement in the town of Ipswich. I am quite certain that I have paid this same compliment to my own town; but it is true in each instance and no insincerity should be imputed to me. Wherever I go in Essex County, I think it the most beautiful country I have ever seen. I think its sons the bravest and its women the fairest, just as the traveler, no matter what part of the world he is in, sees the zenith directly overhead.

You are two hundred and fifty years old and we are only one hundred and seven, yet I regard the town of Hamilton as your sister and, to all intents and purposes, your twin sister. It is true that it was only in 1793 that we separated from the mother town of Ipswich; but we were clearing our hills when the settlers of Topsfield were clearing their hills.



RESIDENCE OF PERCY CHASE.

RESIDENCE OF MRS. C. J. THAYER.

RESIDENCE OF J. M. MEREDITH.

The inhabitants of those two towns, working side by side, laid out that road yonder, straight over hill and dale, turning neither to the right nor to the left. It is called the Newburyport Turnpike and it stretches from Saugus to Newburyport, as straight and unwavering as the Puritan character itself.

I like to picture those men of old as they grappled with nature, hewing their path as the crow flies, regardless where the chips might fall.

From your twin sister, I bring you this message:—This is her highest hope; that when she has reached her 250th year, she may be as young and fair as you and like you may be able to look back and say: "I have preserved the Puritan character. I still raise sons and daughters who look the world squarely in the face and ask favors from no one."

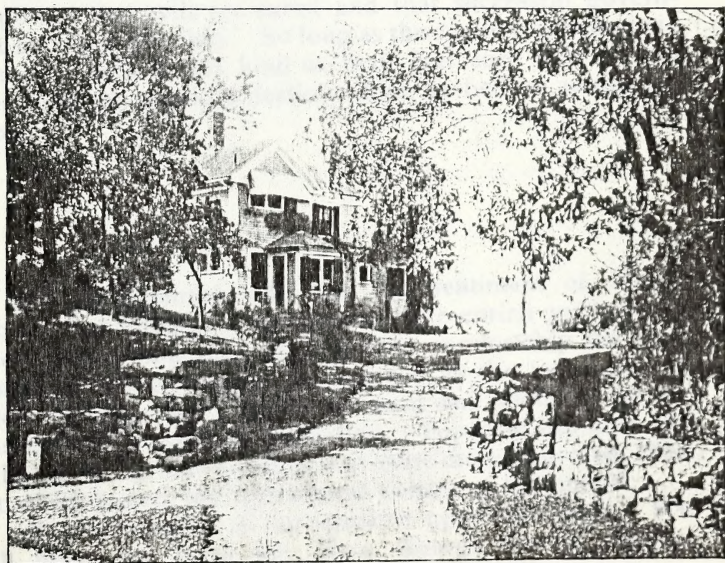
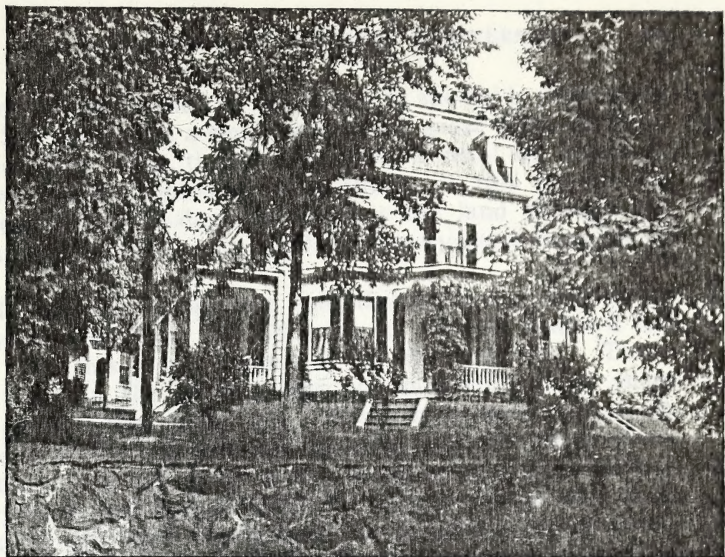
The Toast-master.—Although he has so eloquently addressed us in the morning exercises his friends and constituents crave a few words from Mr. William H. Moody. Will the Honorable Member of Congress please favor us?

After Mr. Moody's speech the toast-master remarked—"A man who can speak like that, not knowing that he is to be called, will be remembered not many months hence."

ADDRESS OF HON. WILLIAM H. MOODY.

Mr. Chairman.—This was not nominated in the bond; neither in the bond which I gave to you nor in the bond of courteous attention which you returned to me. It is an imposition upon you for me to take more of your time on this occasion. I have already had this morning too much. Yet I cannot decline to respond for a single moment to the courtesy of this gathering which gave me this morning so pleasant a greeting and has repeated it at this time. But I trust the few words I shall speak will be entirely within the thermometer limit which has been prescribed to us all. Moreover the same reason that compelled our distinguished junior Senator to respond to your invitation controls me. As he is, so am I, of the crop of your ground in Essex County. I was born upon its soil in the town of Newbury, upon a farm where my ancestors settled twenty-five years before the charter of the town of Topsfield was granted, and where they had lived a life of honorable toil from that day to the day of my birth. I have served the people of this County in one capacity or another according to the best of my ability for a decade. Any man who represents people such as those who dwell in this County, in any capacity or in any place, rests under a great responsibility. The standard which they have prescribed for him is a high one indeed, and he is held to it by the character of the people and the history of those who have preceded him in the public service. He cannot escape mistakes and must realize fully that he is to be judged by an intelligent constituency.

It is said that the town of Topsfield has not grown; that it still contains but a thousand people. It is true enough that New England has not grown so fast in mere numbers as some of the Middle and Western States. She no longer



"THE KNOLLS," RESIDENCE OF GILBERT B. BALCH.

"THE OAKS," RESIDENCE OF ARTHUR A. CLARKE.

controls in the Council of the nation as she did in years gone by. She seems but a small part of our great nation in these modern days. But, though she cannot control by numbers, she can and has controlled the destinies of this country by her ideals, and to-day she is ruling the land through the institutions which she has implanted everywhere from sea to sea.

It has been eloquently said that there are evils in the politics of the day. We all know it. We all realize it full well. Yet this is not happening for the first time. There were evils in the body politic two hundred and fifty years ago, small as that body was. There have been evils from that day to this and there will be evils in all the future time. But there have always been men ready to fight those evils to their death and I trust that there always will be such men. Evils do not cure themselves, nor countries govern themselves; it is through men of capacity, of courage, honesty, and power, that evils are cured and that successful government becomes possible. So long as the country can continue to produce men of this kind we may feel sure that we can accomplish the splendid destiny which we believe awaits our people.

The Toast-master:—It was the sentiment of Daniel Webster that "whatever else may tend to enrich and beautify society, that which feeds and clothes comfortably the mass of mankind should always be regarded as the foundation of national prosperity." Bread and meat and clothing are the great factors in material civilization. Topsfield has been the birthplace of several societies, but none more important than that which fosters the agricultural welfare of the people.

We are fortunate in our speakers upon this topic. We shall hear first from the Hon. George von L. Meyer, President of the Essex Agricultural Society on

"Topsfield the Birthplace of the Essex Agricultural Society."

ADDRESS OF HON. GEORGE VON L. MEYER.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I desire to congratulate the citizens of Topsfield upon celebrating the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation. It also gives me great pleasure, as President of the Essex Agricultural Society, to respond for that Society; for it was here that Timothy Pickering and his distinguished associates held the first meeting under the auspices of the Essex Agricultural Society.

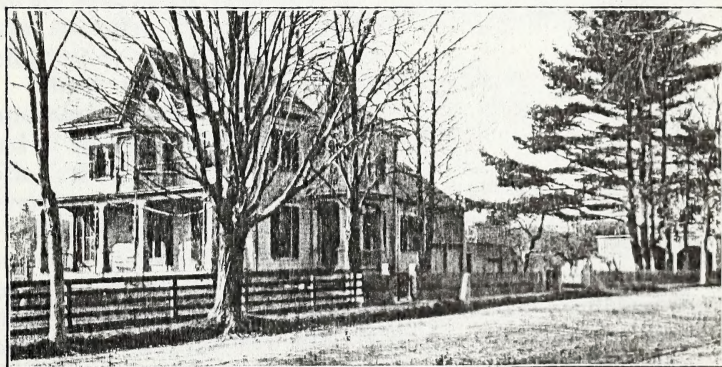
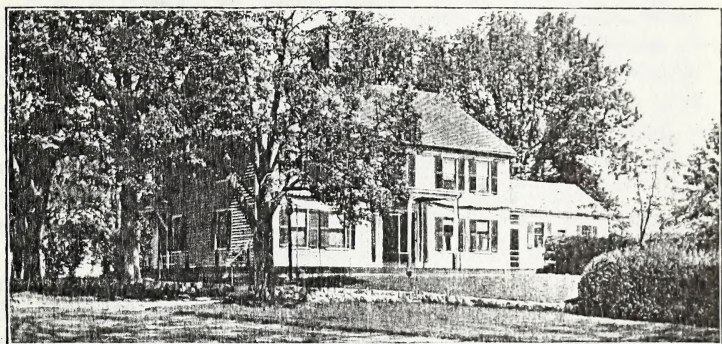
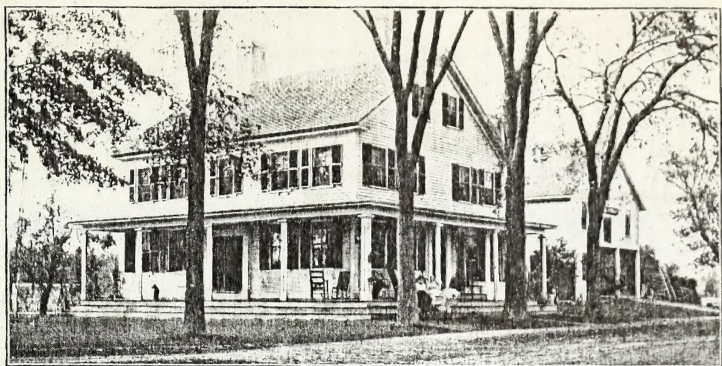
In those days it possibly meant more to the farmers than today, for it was used not only as an occasion to exhibit, but to exchange and sell their cattle and produce.

Since then the Society has continued the annual exhibits, always endeavoring to further the interests of the farmer, and to demonstrate the possibilities of agriculture in Essex County.

It has enrolled in its membership many of the most distinguished names in Essex County, and an orator at its annual meeting described the prize-list as reading like the lists of marriages and births in the records of the old churches in Essex County.

While other towns in our County have outstripped Topsfield in growth, and some have become cities, yet Topsfield has a charm and attraction which in itself gives it identity, and well may it be called the Switzerland of Essex County.

The Toast-master:—And now I introduce the President of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society: General Francis H. Appleton.



SMITH'S HOTEL. RESIDENCE OF MRS. E. W. HUTCHINGS.
THE STANWOOD SCHOOL AND HOME.

ADDRESS OF GEN. FRANCIS H. APPLETON.

On Monday the 16th of February, 1818, at Cyrus Cumming's tavern in this historic town of Topsfield, there assembled "a meeting of farmers and others, inhabitants of the County, for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society." The following patriotic citizens, loyal to the best interests of the County, were appointed at that meeting a committee to report a plan of organization. They were: Ichabod Tucker, lawyer; David Cummings, lawyer; Paul Kent, farmer; John Adams, farmer; and Elias Mack, lawyer.

Their recommendation was at once adopted, and Colonel Timothy Pickering was chosen President, with a full list of officers. Colonel Pickering had previously, and soon after the close of the Revolutionary War, been intimately and actively associated with General Washington, in establishing State societies for the Promotion of Agriculture, and was well fitted to lead the new Society.

Those men, then at the Topsfield tavern, realized the importance to the County, at that early period, of the best kind of agricultural development; and they knew well what both County and State then needed most for agricultural development, in order to help promote general prosperity.

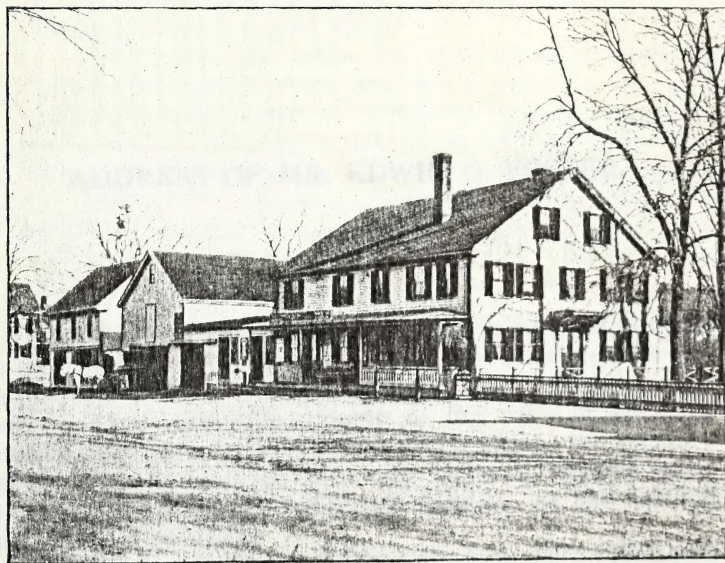
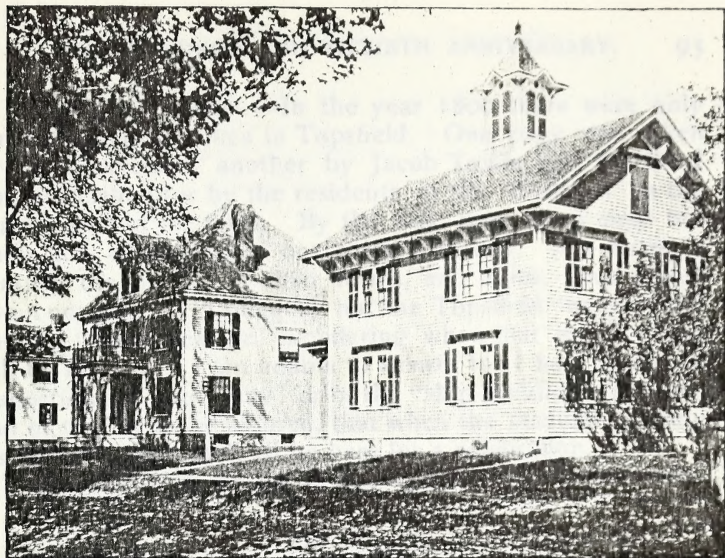
They planned to promote better methods of agriculture, to secure improved live-stock, and to provide quicker, and better, markets for our home-grown products of all kinds. Today we find the times greatly changed, with surrounding possibilities wonderfully extended, but the need of more scientific agriculture upon our farms still exists. The Government has established Departments of Agriculture, and their incorporated Institutions of learning exist, all of which meet the needs of agriculture, if properly taken advantage of by our cultivators.

The Essex Agricultural Society exists today, to the credit of its birthplace, ready to be useful, and to meet today's requirements in as up-to-date a way as is possible, by its Annual Fair in September, and by its Institutes of instruction in Winter; but the personal efforts and interest of our land-owners are essential to attain best results. Farming is being greatly intensified, and horticultural methods are necessary to make field work most profitable. Great sums of money are being expended annually in support of the work of the Agricultural Department at Washington (extensive and useful work), also the Nation, States and Territories join in appropriating large amounts of money for the support of State and Territorial agricultural experiment stations and Colleges, to which I have referred.

May such expenditures continue to show themselves to be a wise investment, and may a full share of the results from these large outlays of money be brought to aid in promoting the agricultural prosperity of our County of Essex; and may the good work, begun here in 1818, continue for many a year to be helpful.

May Topsfield—the birthplace of the Agricultural Society, and the home of its farm—grow and profit by the introduction of all kinds of better agriculture, may methods of farming advance, may her live-stock benefit, may she profit in market-gardening, in her arboriculture, in her roads and road-sides, in her landscape architecture, by the building of more homes upon her hills and along her road-sides. May she have more industries of these, and such other, kinds as may best help her. All to the benefit of her people of today and of the future, and as an example that is worthy of being followed.

May our people have reason to be grateful that the Essex Agricultural Society was organized at Topsfield, and that it continues to live. May Topsfield, with her many natural attractions, continue to develop, and prosper.



ODD FELLOW'S BUILDING AND RESIDENCE OF GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.
RESIDENCE AND STORE OF JOSEPH B. POOR.

The Toast-master:—In the year 1800 there were only three newspapers taken in Topsfield. One copy was taken by Dr. Cleaveland, another by Jacob Towne and the third was subscribed for by the residents of the "Colleges" in the eastern part of the town. By the way, some of us may not know how distinguished our town is abroad. For nearly a century the people of other towns, and cities, have talked about not only the "Colleges," but the Topsfield "navy-yard," and the "brick steamer," wondering when that noble vessel will be finished. I am unable to answer for I have made no inspection of the "navy" or of the "ship-building" interest. But of this let us be assured, that when the steamer is ready for launching we shall all be here for a celebration.

Mr. Edwin O. Foster, of Salem, will serve the last toast:

"The Press."

ADDRESS OF MR. EDWIN O. FOSTER.

Mr. President and Friends:—It affords me great pleasure to meet with you, yet this occasion is one of sadness as well as gladness to me. Nearly forty years ago I left this picturesque village with little thought of the value of my early friends, but as I walked these streets today, and memory recalls the old familiar faces, my heart is sad that many whom I had known and who were kind to me had finished their mission on earth.

Of the prominent men at that time, Rev. Anson McLoud, Benjamin P. Adams, Charles Herrick, Frederick Merriam, Ariel Gould, and many others equally conspicuous in the affairs of this town, have passed away. Yes, nearly all who

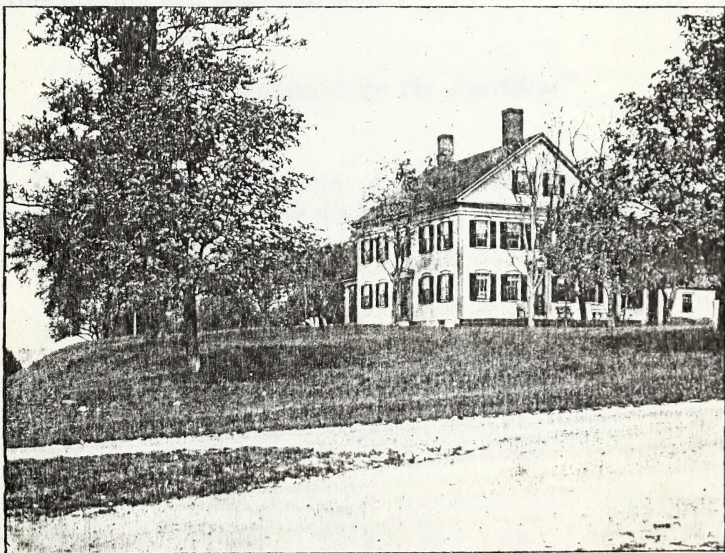
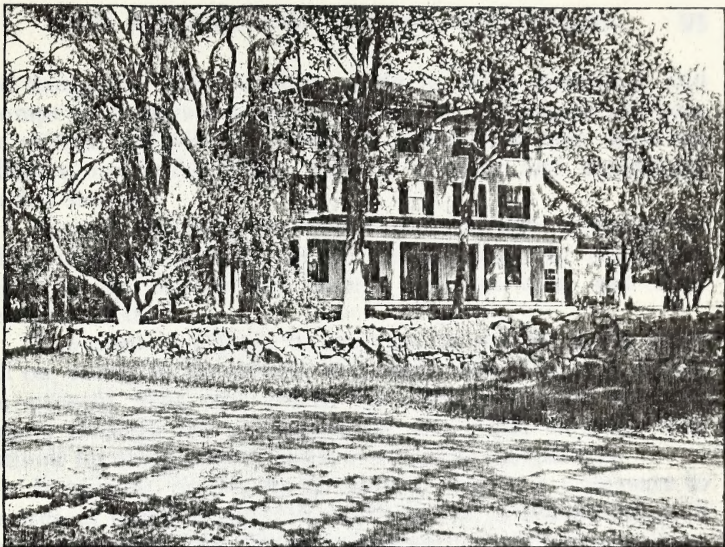
were factors in making this community forty and fifty years ago, a power, have gone. But I am pleased to know that many of my early schoolmates have ably assumed the duties incident to a progressive town, and whether it be in the management of government affairs or in educational and moral work, they are exemplifying the same influences for good as the active men of four decades ago.

Topsfield is my birthplace, and I received my education in the one-story schoolhouse which stood near the site of the present town hall. Yes, it pleases me to return to the scenes of my childhood as the homes are as inviting and beautiful as of yore, the people as noble and generous as when I left here forty years ago.

In this good old town many of the lessons and good impressions that have proved of inestimable value to me were received. It was in yonder Congregational Church that I first attended religious services and Sunday School, and I recall with pleasure the instructions given me by the devout teacher, who has passed away.

Fifty years ago, when this town observed its two hundredth anniversary there was not a paper in the country that deemed the event of sufficient importance to assign a representative here, or to publish an account of the celebration on the following day. This may seem remarkable from the fact that there is not a daily paper in New England this afternoon but has, to a greater or less extent, a story of the celebration we are enjoying. Then, there was neither telegraph nor telephone, and the stage coach was the only public conveyance that the good people had in forwarding and bringing news by letter. Now, through the agency of electric force, despatches are forwarded to all parts of the country almost as fast as the words are uttered by the speaker, and, frequently, when addresses are written, in advance of the verbal delivery.

This celebration, Mr. President, will result in great benefit to Topsfield. The town has been advertised and its varied beauties and attractions made known to the world. Far and wide the fact is known that this town is charming in its situation and natural beauty and exceptionally desirable for residence. And, today, this home coming of the sons



"THE WOODBINE," RESIDENCE OF C. FRED JORDAN, ERECTED 1808.

"THE LARCHES," RESIDENCE OF MISS C. ELLEN PERKINS.
The site of the Old Topsfield Hotel.

and daughters will stimulate pride in their birthplace and prompt all to herald praises of the town. Strangers will hear the refrain, and will come here to establish homes upon the hillsides, and in the valley with its winding and beautifully shaded streets.

Already the valuation of this town has been enhanced by others than native born, as the elegant summer residences occupied by Boston and Salem business men and their families attest.

The town is certain to increase in wealth as the years roll on, owing to the advent of summer residents, and during the present year real estate has been enhanced \$50,000, largely through the establishment of country homes. The outlook for this pastoral town is certainly auspicious.

In closing, permit me to acclaim that it is a pleasure to be present today to enjoy the festivities in commemoration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of this historic and beautiful town.

"Closing Sentiment by the President."

God bless the old town of Topsfield. God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. God perpetuate the glory of the United States.

THE PROCESSION.

"Notwithstanding that in general, things postponed are not as successful, the Topsfield celebration must be the exception that proves the rule, for the postponed parade and sports, with fireworks in the evening, proved a splendid success in every way.

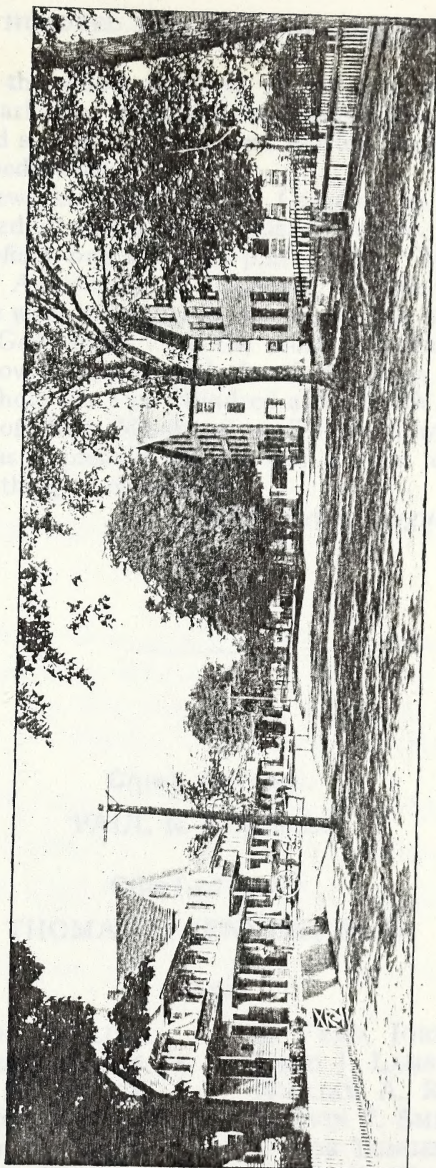
It was estimated that fully five thousand people witnessed the day's festivities. They came from all over the county, by train and private and public conveyance. There was a slight delay in starting the different events, but this, in a measure, was due to the absence of Thomas W. Peirce, Chief Marshal of the parade and Chairman of the Sports Committee, who was suddenly taken ill on Thursday evening.

It was a great disappointment and source of deep regret, for Mr. Peirce had worked very hard, until he had every detail arranged. Paul R. Kimball filled his position very acceptably. The parade did not start until nearly three o'clock. The Salem Cadets arrived just before two o'clock, coming from Boxford Camp by special train, and marched to the head of Main and Haverhill streets, the starting point.

The line of march followed was Main street, Summer street, Central street, Main street, Washington street, Grove street, and Main street to the reviewing stand, which was located on the Common directly opposite the Congregational Church.

The Cadets wore their regulation blue uniforms, and looked business-like with their rich coat of tan from their week spent in camp.

The different features were excellent, combining to make a fine display, worthy of the town.



A PART OF THE MAIN STREET

During the whole day not an accident was reported. This is remarkable, when it is considered that hundreds of carriages and scores of horses were moving about constantly among the pedestrians.

The fireworks given on the Common in the evening were witnessed by nearly three thousand people. They were beautiful in effect, one of the set-pieces being "Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniverary of Topsfield," in different colored fires. There were a number of set-pieces, but the last one, which said "Good night," was the most beautiful. The display lasted over an hour, and closed the day's celebration. Taken as a whole the Two Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of 'New Meadows' or Topsfield, will go down into history as a splendid success and a great credit to all who had anything to do with it."

Salem News, August 18, 1900.

Chief Marshal.

PAUL R. KIMBALL.

Chief-of-Staff.

THOMAS L. JENKINS, M. D.

Aids.

P. JOSEPH COLLINS.

J. H. CUNNINGHAM, JR.

ALBERT M. DODGE.

E. BROOKS EDWARDS.

WARREN F. GOULD.

RALPH D. HOOD.

C. FRED. JORDAN.

FRED J. LAMSON.

WILLIAM A. RUSSELL.

MELVIN F. SMERAGE.

C. VON TONGEN.

ELTON E. WILDES.

ANDY F. JACKMAN.

FIRST DIVISION.

Marshal.

DUDLEY P. ROGERS.

Aids.

JOHN L. FISKE.

JAMES A. GOULD.

SALEM CADET BAND, 24 PIECES.

Jean M. Missud, Bandmaster.

SECOND CORPS CADETS.

Lieut. Col. Walter F. Peck, commanding; Maj. Andrew Fitz.

STAFF.

Lieut. H. A. Titus, Adjutant; Maj. William Voss, Surgeon;
Lieut. E. A. Maloon, Paymaster; Rev. E. J. Prescott, Chaplain; Lieut. William R. Graves,
Battery L, First Heavy Artillery.

Co. A, Capt. Philip Little; Lieut. George E. Symonds.

Co. D, Capt. P. Frank Packard; Lieut. J. N. Clark.

Co. B, Capt. A. N. Webb; Lieut. Edward T. Graham;
Lieut. Frank S. Perkins.

Co. C, Capt. John E. Spencer; Lieut. C. F. Ropes;
Lieut. Harry R. Peach.

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Color Sergeants H. P. Nourse, Francis A. Cook; Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Clarke Brown; Sergeant Major Henry R. Leach; Hospital Steward E. A. Doyle.

CARRIAGES WITH TOWN OFFICIALS AND INVITED GUESTS.

Baxter P. Pike, George Francis Dow, Rev. George H. Perkins, John Danforth, Wellington Donaldson, A. T. Merrill, George F. Averell, Rev. W. N. Roberts, Rev. H. J. Wyckoff, William Perkins, Isaac M. Woodbury, J. B. Poor, Wellington Poole, Hon. Samuel L. Sawyer, S. D. Hood, A. A. Conant, D. H. Conant, Hon. Charles F. Sargent of Lawrence, G. R. Grantham, George A. Schofield, John A. Brown, Charles E. Goodhue, the last three being Selectmen of Ipswich.

Walter Thomas, in uniform of the Topsfield Warren Blues, of 70 years ago, with metal hat, flint-lock musket, and Continental style of uniform.

TOPSFIELD VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

James Wilson, Erwin T. Phillips, William H. Wildes, E. Perkins Averill, Charles G. Cotton, Lewis A. Chapman, D. Oscar Nelson, Edwin K. Foster, Charles H. Frye, Enos Fuller, John H. Towne, Stephen Pierce, of Topsfield; A. T. Howe, Georgetown; Cleveland Gould, of Haverhill; Henry H. Potter, of Danvers.

Arthur Leach on pony.

FLOAT.

Forty-five girls from Intermediate and Grammar schools, dressed to represent "Our States;" float handsomely decorated with tri-colored bunting; Benjamin Woodbury, driver, dressed as "Uncle Sam."

FLOAT.

Forty boys of the Intermediate and Primary schools, dressed as "Rough Riders" and Sailors; the "Army and Navy."

Barge with school children in light dresses, from the Lower Primary grades.

HOOK AND LADDER TRUCK.

SECOND DIVISION.

Marshal.

CHARLES J. PEABODY.

Aids.

JOHN H. BRADSTREET.

GEORGE LITTLE.

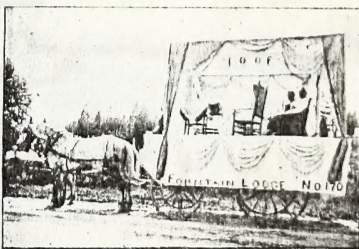
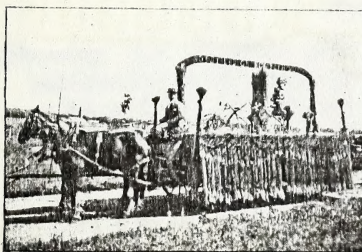
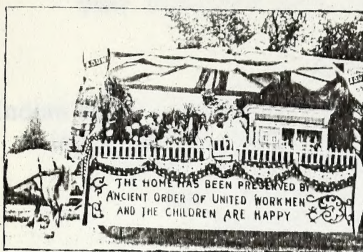
E. B. WOODBURY.

LYMAN A. WILKINS.

FLOATS OF THE TOPSFIELD GRANGE.

First, handsomely decorated with wheat, and containing farming implements, wheat stacks, etc., in wheat field, with curtain of wheat reaching to the ground.

Second, Flora, Ceres and Pomona, seated beneath floral arches. Miss Gertrude Bradstreet, Mrs. Sarah Ward and Miss Grace Frame, representing the respective deities. They were clad in light dresses, and presided over lavish displays of farm products. These ladies were the officers of the Grange.



SOME OF THE FEATURES IN THE PROCESSION.

FLOAT.

Indian camp, entered by Mrs. C. G. Rice of Hamilton, showing a typical camp with wigwam, camp-fire, two squaws and twelve papposes. The float was drawn by six handsome horses ridden by Indians.

DEADWOOD MAIL COACH.

Driven by R. M. Appleton of the Myopia Hunt Club, and containing cowboys as passengers, with three armed outriders, all from the Appleton farm.

MYOPIA HUNT CLUB HOUNDS.

T. G. Frothingham, Acting Master, and E. S. Craven, Whip, dressed in red coats and white trousers.

A. O. U. W. FLOAT.

Representing a home made happy by the beneficence of that fraternal organization, Miss Elizabeth Ferguson as the mother, Helen Andrews and Harold Jordan as children. They were seated in the garden before the house. This was quite an elaborate design.

FLOAT.

Showing sick chamber with Odd Fellows and Rebekahs ministering to the needs of the afflicted. C. H. Leach, Eben S. Merrill, Mrs. R. G. Phillips and Miss Mary L. Woodbury assuming the parts. Entered by Fountain lodge, I. O. O. F., and Rowena Rebekah lodge.

FLOAT.

Satire on train accommodations at Topsfield, showing the "Topsfield Lightning Express" of one smoker and passenger car. Entered by Thomas W. Peirce.

THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD.

FLOAT FROM J. A. LAMSON FARM.

Displaying corn products, name of farm worked in pop corn
on side. Amid a bower of corn sat Misses Grace
and Hattie Merrill, Ethel Adams, and John
Lamson Glover of the twelfth gen-
eration from William
Lamson, the
settler.

MAPLEWOOD FARM FLOAT.

Johnson and Lewis, cow and three calves, one, two days old,
and two sheep, making a pretty farm scene, amid
profuse decorations of corn and bunting.
Little Arthur Lewis, dressed like
a farmer, was in attendance.

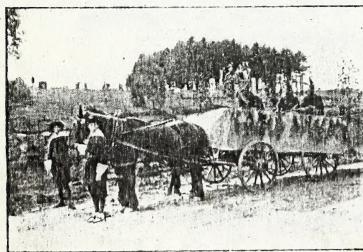
FLOAT.

From Mrs. John C. Phillips' Moraine farm, North Beverly,
beautifully decorated with flags and bunting, and
bearing a live donkey, hitched to a donkey
cart in which sat Mildred L. Meade,
dressed in white, a golden-
haired Miss of five
summers.

Mayor David M. Little, and Frank Cook, of Salem, in an
automobile of their own make.

FLOAT.

Representing Indians of the Agawam tribe, in birch-bark
canoe, "Among the lily-pads." The Indians were R. B.
Young, John Ellard, and O. C. Taylor. The float
was drawn by horses, led by Fred Burnham
and Alfred Lloyd, dressed in
Puritan costume.



SOME OF THE FEATURES IN THE PROCESSION.

H. H. PILLSBURY, DANVERS, FLOAT.

Containing life-sized wooden horse dragging four children in a handsome dog-cart. The children were Margaret George, Claude Porter, Gordon Allen and Laura Merrill.

H. H. Pillsbury, Danvers, three-seated carriage drawn by a fine pair of white horses, and decorated with golden-rod, carrying Misses Perley, Abbott, Marston, Hayes, Perry and Pierce, who were dressed in white.

Carriage of Mrs. Gilbert B. Balch, decorated with red and white pinks and ribbons, and drawn by a handsome pair of horses. "A most artistic and tasty display, well worthy of special mention."

Essex Agricultural Society barouche, containing four young ladies dressed in yellow and white.

Carriage of the Danvers Evening Press, decorated with golden-rod, and containing four ladies.

Mrs. George L. Gould's phaeton, artistically decorated with golden-rod, Warren F. Gould and Bertram C. Gould mounted as outriders.

J. F. Porter, Danvers, float, displaying furniture.

Charles McTerney, Danvers, float, displaying harnesses.

C. H. Leach, butcher wagons.

J. A. McLaughlin, float, showing a little boy, James Farrell, in a bath tub.

Almy, Bigelow & Washburn Co., Salem, team.

Calvin Putnam, Danvers, teams loaded with lumber.

P. R. Kimball, teams, with display of flour.

Woodbury & Co., teams, with display of coal and wood.

Poor & Co., teams, with display of flour and canned goods.

E. E. Ferguson, team, displaying vegetables and fruits,
artistically arranged.

G. E. Hills, team, with display of boots and shoes.

Frank B. Trask, Danvers, furniture team.

Alden P. Peabody, farm wagon loaded with potatoes.

Barouche containing Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Nickerson, Mrs. C.
S. Brown, and W. C. Nickerson, all of Danvers.
Carriage was prettily decorated, and was
driven by D. W. Webster, dressed
in Continental uniform.

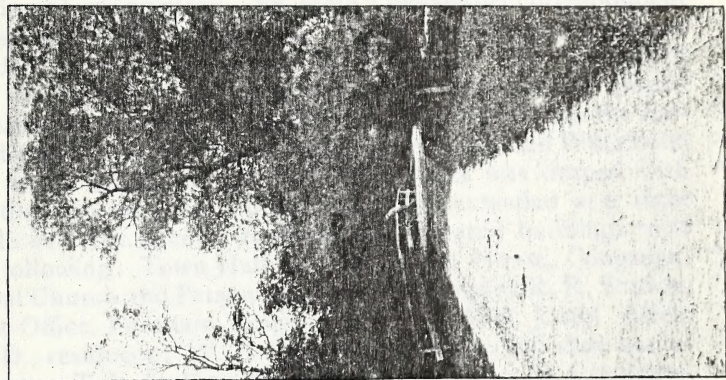
W. A. Webb, Danvers, team, displaying brick work.

W. C. Ray, three milk wagons, decorated with flags and
bunting, surrounding floral pieces on the sides.

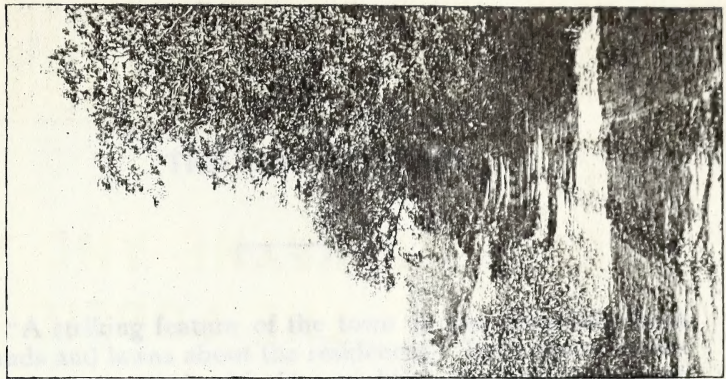
Batchelder Farm, milk wagon, with name on the side in
floral letters.



MAPLE STREET.



AT THE RIVER BRIDGE.



THE "OLD ROAD."

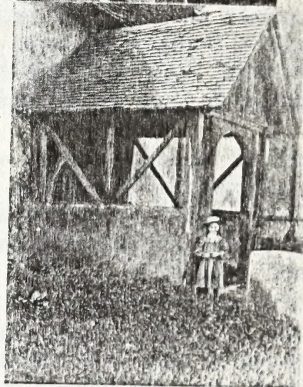
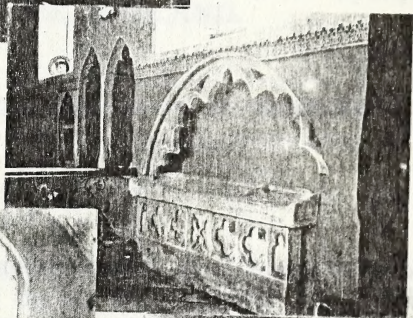
THE DECORATIONS.

"A striking feature of the town is the beautifully kept grounds and lawns about the residences. Each house-owner seems to have vied with his neighbor, in trying to present the finest looking place. So wrote a newspaper correspondent at the time of the celebration. Public buildings and private residences were very generally decorated. The Town Hall and Centre School House were covered with bunting draped in elaborate designs. An arch across Main street near the railroad crossing displayed the words TOPSFIELD, and WELCOME, and every telephone pole on Main street was draped with bunting looped from a projecting arm extended at a right angle over the street. Among the decorated buildings were the following: Town Hall, Centre School House, Congregational Church and Parsonage, Boston and Maine R. R. Station, Post-Office, Fountain Lodge, I. O. O. F. Hall, Justin Allen, M. D., residence; W. H. Herrick, residence and shoe manufactory; T. L. Jenkins, M. D., residence; Geo. R. Grantham, residence; Edwin S. Clifford, residence; Geo. Francis Dow, residence; Stanwood Church Home; Daniel Fuller, residence; I. M. Woodbury, residence; John H. Potter, residence; Mary S. Kimball, residence and store; Paul R. Kimball, store; Chas. H. Leach, residence and grounds; W. Pitman Gould, residence; J. A. McLaughlin, store; Benj. Lane and Albert Lane, residence; Eben S. Merrill and F. P. Smerage, residence; H. H. Roberts, residence; John Bailey, residence; C. I. Trowbridge, store; A. T. Merrill, residence; Joseph B. Poor, residence and store; Geo. E. Hills, store; J. H. Chandler, residence; E. B. Woodbury, residence; C. W. Floyd and C. F. Dodge, residence; Smith's Hotel; Geo. L. Gould, residence; Lyman A. Perkins, residence; Albert A. Conant, residence; Gilbert B. Balch, residence.

TOPSFIELD, MAINE.

Topsfield, Maine, a small township in the eastern part of the State, near the Canadian boundary, was christened in honor of Topsfield, Mass. It was founded by Nehemiah Kneeland* who removed from Topsfield, Mass., to Harrison, Maine, about 1818; about ten years later removing to Lincoln, Maine, where in March, 1832, in company with a few neighbors, he loaded his family and household goods on a sled drawn by oxen, and went forty miles into the wilderness. The party made a clearing in the unbroken forest and founded a new town. Here some of Nehemiah Kneeland's descendants still live. The town still has a heavy growth of timber, and, like its namesake, several high hills. It was incorporated Feb. 24, 1838. The population in 1890, was 375; valuation, \$81,598.00; number of polls, 78. The Essex County names—Bailey, Lane, and Noyes, appear in the list of those engaged in business in the township.

*Nehemiah Kneeland was born in Topsfield, May 5, 1789, and married Mary Goodhue of Salem. He was the son of Aaron and Hannah (Ramsdell) Kneeland, and a descendant of Edward Kneeland, an early settler at Ipswich. Aaron Kneeland was a soldier at Lexington and Bunker Hill. He removed with his family to Harrison, Cumberland County, Maine, about 1808, where many of his descendants now reside.



VIEWS SHOWING THE WEST PORCH AND INTERIOR OF
ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, TOPPESFIELD, ENGLAND.

A SKETCH OF TOPPESFIELD PARISH,
ESSEX CO., ENGLAND.

BY REV. H. B. BARNES, RECTOR OF ST. MARGARETS.

For the last six months I have been trying to gather material for a sketch of the history of ancient Toppesfield. The work would be by no means easy even for an expert, for there appear to have been no previous workers in this field, from whom to gather without toil that which must in the first instance have been discovered at the cost of much time and labour.

Of course the chronicler has the old records on the tombs, the old account books, as well as the old registers, which he can always consult, and which probably would reveal tales of deepest interest to any one who has leisure to study them, and experience and skill to understand the meaning of that which is written in these old-world records, but the present writer confesses with sorrow that even had he the time to spare he has not got the skill; but he hopes that he is no dog in the manger; so should any one (and especially any one interested in the connection between Topsfield and Toppesfield) wish to work up all that can be learned from these original documents, he may count on being met with the heartiest welcome, and the fullest help that can be rendered.

As then, (in the absence of other men's writings from which to steal, and of ability to make original researches) it is impossible to write any account of ancient Toppesfield which shall not be of an imaginative rather than an historical character. I have thought that perhaps some short account of the Toppesfield of to-day might be of interest.

The village is situated in the north-eastern corner of the County of Essex, near to the borders of Suffolk on the east, and of Cambridgeshire on the north; the country is not by any means of the level character that is usually attributed to the whole of Essex. There are no great hills but there is no flat country; all is undulating. Toppesfield itself—whatever the origin of its name—certainly by its position deserves its designation; the church does not stand on the highest ground in the parish, but yet its tower serves for a land-mark for miles around, on all sides except the west, on which side a wood screens it from view; while in the parish about two miles in a southerly direction from the church, is found the highest point in this part of the county, excelled in the whole county only, if at all, by Danbury Hill near Chelmsford.

The soil is almost uniformly clay, and very good for wheat growing, and its fertility is such that even in the present time of agricultural depression there is not an unoccupied acre in the parish. Yet it must not for a moment be supposed that Toppesfield has escaped unscathed; very far from it. Thirty years ago it was as rich and prosperous a little place as could be found; now it is miserably poverty-stricken; then, there were numbers of well-to-do farmers, now, the land is farmed in large holdings by men who, for the most part, live in neighbouring villages; then, many of the old houses dotted about the parish were occupied by large and thriving families; now, the families have gone and many of the houses are either occupied by labourers (*e. g.* Olivers, Cust Hall and Fry's Hall) or are falling into decay as "Mullows" has done. The impossibility of making a living off the land, has driven the descendants of sturdy yeomen to seek elsewhere, the livelihood which the ground their fathers tilled, can no longer afford them.

Nor is the lot of the labourer better than that of the

farmer; though the cause of the trouble is in his case different; for farm labourers wages, have this year stood higher than they have ever been known to be before. But in the old days the daughters and wife would earn more than the father, and would do so without being necessarily taken away from home; even thirty years ago, straw plaiting was a great industry in this part of England. Old crones maintained themselves in comparative comfort by holding "schools" in which infants of quite tender years were taught to plait, and, as the children grew up, they plaited as they stood in their cottage doors or as they lolled about the roads, and their work was every week collected by higglers who came round for the purpose. All this has come to an end now; no straw plait is made here for it can be more cheaply imported from the East than it can be made at home; and though the money that was earned in this way is much missed, yet the village is happier and better for the loss of this business, for straw plaiting always seemed—wherever it was done—to bring a moral deterioration in its train.

There is however an indirect way in which the agricultural depression seriously affects the labourer; it makes it very difficult for him to get a decent cottage. The profits of farming having been so much reduced, the farmers have been unable to pay anything like the old amount of rent and this has hit the land-owning class very hard; in some cases the depreciation of the value of land has been so great that its capital value now is little more than its old annual rent; plenty of good land can now be bought for £7. an acre and in this price are sometimes included farm houses and out-buildings and cottages which have quite recently cost more than now they can fetch, even with the freehold of the land thrown in; small pieces of land without buildings fetch (except for some special reason) even lower prices. I heard last week of thirteen acres of good land in an adjoining parish being sold for no more than £40.

The landlords then, being so hard hit in all cases, and sometimes having positively *no* balance left after they have paid the "charges" on the estate (doweries it may be or pensions determined upon during the fat years of prosperity) are unwilling, even when, through having other sources of income,

they are able, to spend more money than can be helped, on the up-keep of their farm buildings and the cottages on their farms; hence on every side the barns and out-buildings are more or less dilapidated, (though it must be owned that in this respect there has been a considerable improvement during the last two years) hence too the refusal to repair old cottages, so that cottage after cottage is condemned by the medical officer of health as unfit or unsafe for human habitation, and the inhabitants of the condemned cottages are obliged to seek their living elsewhere than in the old parish. As for new cottages, none have been built lately and none are likely to be built, for if the landlords cannot build them no one else will except from philanthropic motives, for it would be difficult to get a nett return of two per cent. on the minimum cost of erection.

The necessary results of such a condition of things are easily understood; the best of the young men go off to the towns, and there gain their living; many of them become policeman or employés on the railways; others become soldiers; the young women go out to domestic service and so the village is left with the old people and the young children to inhabit it. The proportion of the old is something remarkable; that the climate is extremely healthy and that longevity is much more common here than in most places, may have a little to do with it, but fails altogether to account for the wonderful proportion of old people in the population; no, the reason is that the young men and women as soon as they grow up go off elsewhere to seek a better market for their labour; and while we regret losing them, and fear that many of the men like the married man of the story find the change "none for the better and all for the worse," there can be no doubt that the course they take is the one which must seem most reasonable to those who have no knowledge of the condition of unskilled labour in the great towns. The extent to which this exodus is reducing the population of the parish may be judged from the fact that while in 1831 there were 1088 inhabitants; in 1881 there were 861; in 1891 790, and in 1901 there is no doubt that there will be a still further reduction. It is impossible to form an accurate estimate, but I should guess the number at 650, basing my calculation

on the number of children on the school books, which is now 115, while in 1891 it was 146. I am glad to say, however, that the average number in attendance for this year is higher than it was then, for while in 1891 the average was 111, it is for the time that has passed since the beginning of the current school year on April 1st last* 113, which we are proud to consider would be a remarkable performance for any school, but which is highly creditable in a parish where some of the scholars live two and one-half miles away from the school door. The school is a voluntary school supported by a voluntary rate of 4d in the £1, in addition of course to the Government grant; the total cost for a scholar in average attendance being about £2. 10. 0. per annum; the buildings are good and roomy, and would accommodate nearly double the present number of scholars. In the school is also held an evening continuation school for young men which was begun this year and which has been doing fairly well. In this same building are held the meetings of the members of what is known as "the school club," an excellent Benefit Society, a branch of the National Deposit Friendly Society. The Toppesfield branch started some fifteen years ago by the then Rector, the Rev. C. F. Taylor, has over 100 members; many of them however are now living in distant parts and some come from neighbouring villages. Toppesfield has reason to feel proud of its school and of its Benefit Society.

Near the School is the church which is dedicated to St. Margaret; the tower looks imposing from a distance but when examined more closely proves to be a rather poor specimen of the architecture of the beginning of the eighteenth century; there was an old tower, the inside of which must have opened on to the church, with a lofty early English arch, and which is said to have been built of flint and rubble; this fell down on July 4th 1689, and was replaced by the present structure of brick; the tower contains five bells, two of which however need recasting. The church consists of a chancel, nave, and south aisle with a gallery at the west end, against the tower. The chancel contains an interesting old

*It is only fair to state, that during the months April, May and June, there were ten more children on the books, but the average weekly percentage of children present is, for this year, over ninety-five.

tomb surmounted with a cross, built half in and half out of the south wall. There is no inscription on the tomb, and it is not known to whom it belongs. In the floor is an old brass, bearing the figures of a man and woman, and with the inscription

Pray for the sowlys of John Cracherowd and Agnes his wyff: the whyche John decesyed the yere of Our Lord God 1513, upon whose sowl Christ have mercy.

Near to this there is another brass plate with the inscription:

Here lyeth buried William Cracherod, Gent, who died Xth of January 1585, and Eliz: his wyfe the XVIIth of Feb. 1587.

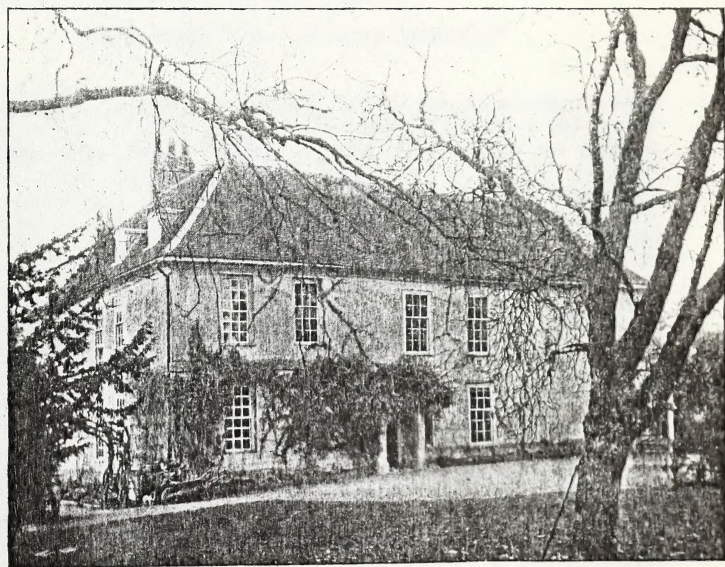
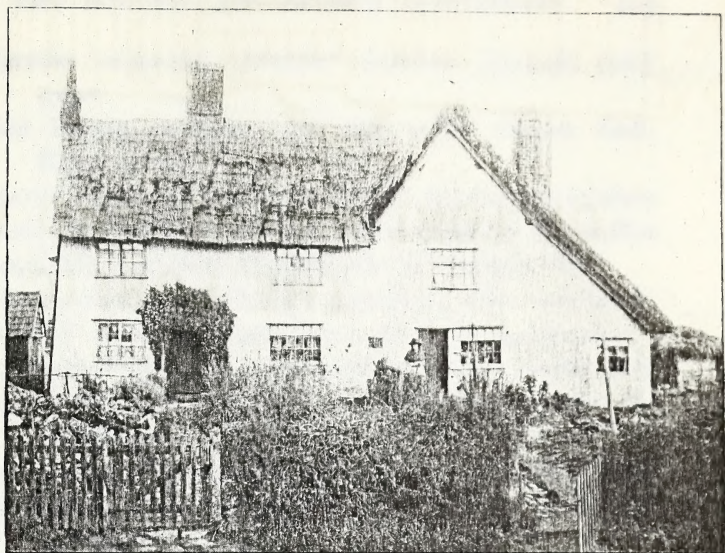
Near to this again there is a tomb, with a full-sized effigy of a man, bearing no inscription, but probably containing an earlier member of the same family of Cracherod.

On the walls of the chancel are commonplace memorials of three former Rectors,* and two memorials of ladies which may be worth transcribing; on the north wall there is a marble monument bearing various symbolical devices† and this inscription:

*Against the east wall of the chancel is a small mural monument, upon which is written as follows:—Ego Richardus King, patria Herefordiensis, educatione Oxoniensi, professione theologus, officio capelloneus Jacobi Regis ferenissimi & hujus ecclesiae vicarius indignus, hoc in loco sacrosancto sponte depono & recondo corporis exuvias laus Deo, salus ecclesiae, & animae meae requies in aeternum. Amen. [For illustration of this tablet, see, *The Ancient Sepulchral Monuments of Essex*. By Frederic Chancellor, p. 325, London, 1890.]

In English:—I Richard King, by country an Herefordshireman, by education an Oxonian, by profession a divine, by office a chaplain to king James and the unworthy vicar of this church, willingly deposit my remains in this sacred place.—Praise be to God, health to the church, and rest to my soul for ever. Amen.—*History of Essex (Co.)*. By a Gentleman. Chelmsford, 1771.

†Two Bibles serve the office of trusses, upon which are two rows of books, that instead of two pilasters support a neat pediment, in the middle of which pediment is a beehive, and under the hive is written *indultria dulcis*, meaning *sweet industry*. Over the hive is placed a dove, with the words *fida simplex* (imparting *simple fidelity*) written below it. Six of the books which compose the pilasters are labelled thus:—*Sacrae medit; Soliloquia; Publ. Prec; Praxis Pict; Flores Prac; Psalmi*.—*History of Essex (Co.)*. By a Gentleman. Chelmsford, 1771.



AN OLD COTTAGE, TOPPESFIELD, ENGLAND.
THE RECTORY, TOPPESFIELD, ENGLAND.

Sacrum memoriæ pientiss^a fœminæ Dorcadi (sic)
uxori

Guil Smyth armigeri; qui eam prius viduam Guil.
Bigg triumq

liberor matre, ob modestia, pietate prudentia singulare
duxit; et in familia prosapia celebre traduxit; ubi multos
annos ille, splendidæ hospitalitatis et candoris, illa
solertiæ fideique matronalis exemplar; clara omnibusq
nobilib^s æque ac infimis chara sui memoria reliqueru
Laudatiss^a aviæ suæ, sacra senecta lectione, meditatione
bonisq operibus indefesse consolanti tandemq inter in-
credibilia

sanctissimæ animæ gaudia ultro in cœlu avolanti H. Bigg
nepos hiscæ symbolis parentat et lachrymis. Hoc pago
educata.

nupta; Cressingæ, mortua, sepulta.

Obiit 1663. Dec. 18 anno ætat 76.*

*In English:—Sacred to the memory of that very pious woman Dorcas the wife of William Smith, esquire; who married her, when the widow of William Bigg and the mother of three children, for her singular modesty, piety, and prudence; and placed her in a family of great eminence; wherein, he was many years a bright pattern of hospitality and goodness; she, of diligence and conjugal fidelity; persons of every rank held her in great esteem: the memory of them was dear to all who knew them. H. Bigg makes an offering of this and of his tears to his much esteemed grandmother, who incessantly comforted her old age, by reading the holy scriptures, by meditation, and by acts of goodness; and who, at length amidst the inconceivable joys of a most pious soul, willingly winged her way to heaven. She was brought up and married in this town: she died and was buried at Cressing. She departed this life December 18, 1633, in the 76th year of her age. Beneath this inscription is the figure of a lamb placed upon a bible, upon which is written these words: *Biblia fides sacra*, which mean, *Faith in the Holy Bible*: on one side the bible is the representation of a bleeding heart, as figurative of her feelings for the distressed poor: on the other side is that of an expanded hand; doubtless as a symbol of her readiness always to assist them. The whole is prettily designed, and executed in a masterly manner.—*History of Essex (Co.). By a Gentleman. Chelmsford, 1771.*

On the South wall is a memorial of a young lady of eighteen :

Her disposition was mild and benevolent
her manners gentle and simple
and most respectfully obliging
her sentiments enlarged and liberal
her understanding clear and comprehensive
enriched with an uncommon extent and variety
of attainments, of which she was so far
from making an ostentatious display
that she seemed unconscious she possessed them
nay, the degrading conceptions she unhappily formed
of her own worth moral and intellectual (sic)
were probably the source of insupportable sufferings
"The brain too nicely wrought
Preys on itself and is destroyed by thought."

One cannot but wonder whether the young lady overburdened by the marvellous talents of which she was unaware sought relief in suicide.

The South aisle has a fine old oak carved roof, the date of which can be determined (by the combination of the pomegranite and the rose found on it) to be about the year 1500. At the east end of the aisle there used to be a window with fine old glass, but it having been found necessary, some half century ago, to build a vestry out beyond the aisle, the glass in the window was removed and left about to perish! this is not the only loss—caused by neglect or ignorance—that we have occasion to deplore. At the east end of this aisle there can be seen on one side a piscina, showing that an altar once stood there, and in the other, high up in the wall, the entrance to the rood loft of which no other trace now remains. The font, which stands in the aisle, has no other interest than such as is derived from its great age. The body of the church has nothing to recommend it, the seats are mean looking and uncomfortable for use, the pulpit is commonplace, the west gallery (in which, in the good old days of even fifty years ago or less, sat the performers on the fiddles and the flutes) is Jacobean, but while all built of oak is faced on its pillars with carved oak; the great oak beams which span the nave are similarly cased, and unhappily

neither they nor the roof are in a sound condition. The right of appointing the Rector rests with the Crown; there were here at one time both a Rectory (which then was a sinecure) and a Vicarage; but the Bishop of London, about 1454, finding that the Vicarage had become too poor to maintain a clergyman, united the Vicarage to the Rectory. There is still a piece of the Glebe land known as "the vicarage," which forms a memorial of the old state of things.

The names are known of all the clergy of the Parish since 1300:

DATE.	SINECURE RECTORS.	DATE.	VICARS.
1327.	John Hardy.* William de Grytton. John Cory. William Noble. William Barret.	1331.	William (died) Stephen le Parker. John Hokyngton.*
1385.	Thomas Haxeye.*	1385.	William Lambeleye or Welton.*
1386.	Thomas Banaster.*	1394.	John Cukkowe. William Mersey. (died)
1386.	William Gray.	1431.	Richard Pumpy.*
	Nicholas Manvell. (died)	1432.	John Scarlette.*
1446.	William Breden.*	1433.	William Meyr. John Peteville.
1452.	John Hambalt.	1448.	Henry Huyton.
1454.	William Parker.		
RECTORS.			
1492.	William Parker. John Edenham or Ednam, D. D.		Preferred. Dean of Stoke; Canon of St. Paul's; Master of Corpus Coll.
1504.	Thomas Fermyn. (died)		Agent of Thomas Cromwell.
1520.	Adam Becansawe.		Deprived.
1551.	Thomas Donnell, B. D.		
1553.	Cuthbert Hagerston, M. A.		
1554.	Thomas Havard.		
1556.	Richard Wynne.		
1559.	Thomas Donnell, B. D.		Restored. Prebendary of Lich- field.
1571.	William Redman, D. D.		Preferred. Canon of Canterbury; Bishop of Norwich.
1578.	William Whiting.		
1598.	Edward Graunt, D. D.		Canon of Ely; Sub-Dean of West- minster.
1601.	William Smyth.*		
1603.	Theodore Beacon, M. D.		
1604.	Randolph Davenport, B. D.		
1605.	Richard Kinge, D. D.		Chaplain to James I.

* Resigned.

RECTORS.

1621.	Richard Senhouse, D. D.	Dean of Gloucester; Bishop of Carlisle.
1624.	Lawrence Burnell, D. D.	Chaplain to Charles I.
1647-1661.	No rector.	Thomas Overhead intruded.
1661.	Clement Thurston, M. A.	
1662.	Nathaniel Ward, M. A.	
1662.	Edgar Wolley, D. D.	Bishop of Clonfert.
1664.	Richard Collebrand, D. D.	Dean of Bocking.
1674.	Robert Wild, M. A.	Chaplain of the Rolls.
1691.	Thomas Willett, M. A.	
1735.	John Hume, D. D.	Bishop of Bristol, Salisbury and Oxford.
1749.	Samuel Squire, D. D., F. R. S., F. S. A.	Dean of Bristol; Bishop of St. David's.
1750.	Henry Herring, M. A.	
1772.	George Pawson, L. L. B.	
1797.	Lord Henry Fitzroy, M. A.	Canon of Westminster.
1828.	George Henry Gooch, M. A.	
1876.	John Sherron Brewer, M. A.	

* Resigned.

Since the death of which distinguished man in 1879 there have been five other Rectors.

In the Church and Churchyard many of these worthies lie buried, but none of their memorial stones are worth copying. There is one stone however near the Tower which records that:

Here lieth the body of
Sarah Norfolk wife of
Samuel Norfolk the younger
who was cruelly murdered by
her husband Septr. 24 1775 at
a farm call'd Elms in this Parish
in the 25th year of her age
The said Samuel Norfolk
confessed the fact
was hang'd and desected

The Parish registers date back to 1558 and are in a good state of preservation and fairly legible to those who have mastered the difficulties of the old form of writing; there are also old account books dating back to 1662, and deeds of an earlier date.

On the first page of the earliest register is written in Latin and in English, the doggrel rhymes:

Advent wills thee to contain
 But Hilarie sets thee free again
 Septuagesima said thee nay
 But eight from Easter says you may
 Rogation bids thee yet to tarrie
 But Trinity gives thee leave to marrie.

The baptisms, marriages and burials are entered in separate parts of the book but mistakes occur every now and then, so that a marriage is entered among the funerals.

Near the church stand the two village inns, the Chestnuts, and The Green Man, both of them picturesque in appearance. The Green Man is as quaint and old-fashioned as it is comfortable and well-managed. The host, Mr. Charles Seaman, has held his house for over forty years, and it is commonly said that there is not an hotel in any of the neighbouring towns for miles round where guests are made so comfortable or where a dinner so well cooked and served can be had.

Standing back in a park-like meadow is the old Manor House known as Berwick Hall; a nice comfortable house, with some old oak in it, inhabited by Mr. Charles Darby, whose family name has been known in Toppesfield for some three centuries at least.

Beyond the "Park" of Berwick Hall is the Rectory, part of which also is very old, dating back to the 14th century. There are traces of a moat round both Berwick Hall and the Rectory. Two years ago (1898) a very fine oak ceiling with large moulded beams, and an old oak doorway, were discovered in one of the rooms, having previously been covered up with plaister and canvas. The Rectory is very sheltered on all sides being enclosed by well-grown trees and with a large old Tithe Barn lying on its north side.

About half a mile from the Rectory on the road to Yeldham, stands "Olivers," with a beautiful approach through an avenue; it is now inhabited by two labourers; there is a panelled room still in an excellent state of preservation though the woodwork has been unfortunately covered with paint.

Toppesfield Hall, which like Olivers, belongs to Mr. J. M. Balls, stands on the other side of the Yeldham road; it is a comfortable modern house inhabited by Mr. J. F. Benson, one of the church-wardens, who is a nephew of the proprietor.

Bradfields is a picturesque house lying rather low, and in a rather dilapidated condition.

Gainsfords is another old Manor house about two miles from the church, occupied by Mr. C. Dean Darby, a son of Mr. Darby of Berwick Hall; it also has some nice oak.

Flowers Hall, about another mile beyond Gainsfords, is another nice-looking house, not very large, but with a wonderful range of out-buildings; it is now occupied by Mr. Clarke who with his family of active sons gets excellent results from some of the least fertile land in the parish.

I have given as fair a description as I can of the Toppesfield of today. What is its future to be? there is I think but little doubt. London is but fifty miles off, though thanks to the bad railway accommodation it takes two hours to get there. The Londoner is more and more developing a love for a country residence, and when the favourite counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex get filled up, as they are doing already, those who like quiet will go further afield. Automobilmism, or electric railways, will make travelling easy, and then this corner of Essex with its healthy climate, its quiet beauty, its fertile soil, its fine oaks and other trees will attract the class of persons who want a nice house and a few acres of land. Then land will again fetch in this district ten times what it fetches now; then there will be plenty of employment in stables, gardens and pleasure farms for the men who now flock into the towns. But this will not be in my day. But even now Toppesfield is a pleasant happy place with inhabitants who are not very fond of strangers, but who are essentially good-hearted.

TOPPESFIELD, ENGLAND.

FROM

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX
(ENGLAND), BY PHILIP MORANT.

CHELMSFORD, 1816.

This parish* was so called from some Saxon owner, named Topa, or Toppa. It is otherwise written in records—Toppesfend, Toppesford, Thopefield. In Edward the Confessor's reign, some of the lands here belonged to freemen, named Alestan; to Duua; to Got, &c., but, at the time of the general survey, part was holden by Eustace, Earl of Bologne, and his under-tenant, Bernard; part by one Ralph; and a considerable share, called afterwards Camoys-hall, by Hamo Dapifer.

These lands were divided, soon after, into the following maners:—The maner of Berwick and Scoteneys; Gaynesfords; The maner of Husees; Cust-hall; The maner of Camoys, and the maners, or reputed maners, of Flowers-hall, Gobions, Hawkeshall, and Bradfield. Most of these, if not all, are Duchy lands, and belonged to the honor of Clare.

*Is of large extent, fruitful in its soil, and pleasant in its situation, but not being a great thoroughfare, the roads hereabouts are in general heavy and narrow. The village is but small and rather mean in appearance. *History of Essex Co. By a Gentleman. Chelmsford, 1771.*

This parish extends northward to Great Yeldham; to Finchingham on the west; southward to Wethersfield, and on the east, to the Hedinghams. Distant from Clare, five, and from London, fifty miles. The village is small, and none of the roads passing through this district being leading thoroughfares, they are in general narrow, and not in very good repair. The soil is a deep tenacious marl, retentive of moisture, and universally requires draining. *Wrights' History of Essex County. London, 1836.*

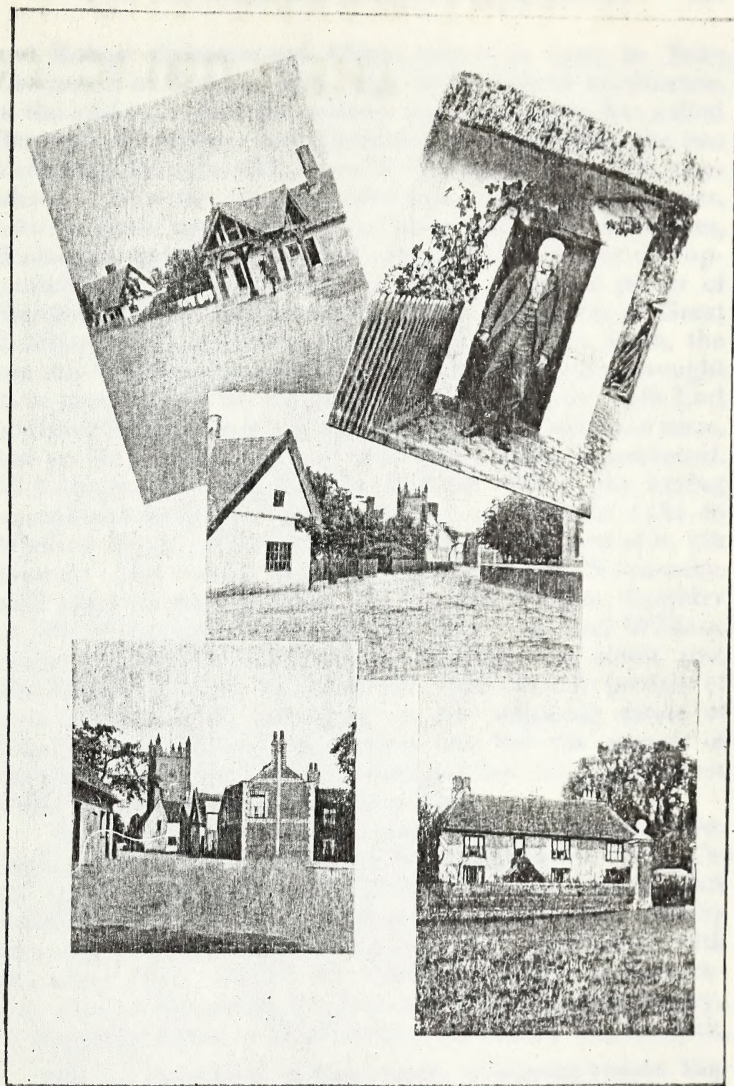
TOPPESFIELD. A. 3332; P. 861; Rectory, value £900; 2 m. SW. from Yoldham; B. 6. A pleasant, retired village on a commanding emi-

THE MANER OF BERWICKS AND SCOTENEYS.

They were separate at first, but have been long united, and took their names from their respective ancient owners, as will appear in the sequel. Berwick-hall stands a little way south-west from the church. The mansion-house and lands of Scoteneys lie near Yeldham, about half a mile from Berwick-hall. These two constitute the chief maner in this parish, though not the largest. In King John's reign, *Albrey de Wic*, or Wykes, held this estate, of the honor of Bologne, by the service of three parts of a Knight's-fee. He sold it to *Gerebert de St. Clere*; it being then called 84 acres of arable, 3 acres of meadow and pasture, 4 acres of wood, 45 pence rent of assize yearly, 49 days work, and ten hens. Part of the estate, viz.: 8 acres of arable, 5 of meadow, 4 of wood, &c., were holden of Ralph de Camoys.

Scoteneys was then distinct from it, and belonged to *Walter de Scoteney*, a Baron, who had also the maner of Hersham. But, for giving poison to Richard Earl of Clare, whose Steward he was, and to William, his brother, of which the latter died, he was hanged in 1259; and his estate, most probably, given to *John de Berewyk*, who died in 1312; holding the the maner of Toppesfield, of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, by the service of one Knight's-fee; and his heir was *Roger*, son of John *Huse*; more particularly mentioned under the maner of Husees. From him it came to *Tho. Rykedon*;

nence, 280 ft. above the sea. The *Church* (St. Margaret) is of brick, and has a nave, S. aisle of four bays, chancel, and embattled brick tower with 4 corner pinnacles and 5 bells; 3 dated 1675; one 1720; and one 1779. The body was built in 1519, the tower in 1699. In the chancel are mural tablets to Dorcas Smyth (1633); Robert Wildes (1690), rector; Thomas Willitt (1731), rector; the Rev. George Pawson (1797); and Elizabeth Erle (1655); also an uninscribed altar-tomb, on the S. side of the chancel, with floriated cross, probably to the founder of the church; and brasses to Wm. Cracherod, gent. (1585), and wife; and to John Cracherod (1534), and wife. There is also a fine incised stone, with an effigy of a cross-legged knight in armour, and a 14th century inscription to Thomas le Despensser. In the chancel is a piscina and another in the nave. The font is a rude, ancient one. The registers date from 1559. The women and children in this parish are partially engaged in straw-plaiting. *Essex (Co.) Handbook*, by Miller Christy. London, 1887.



TOPPESFIELD, ENGLAND.

The Parish Pump.

An Old Resident.

The Winding Street.

St. Margaret's Tower.

Berwick Hall.

and Robert Rykedon and others sold it, in 1420, to *John Doreward*, of Bocking, Esq., who, at the time of his decease, in the said year, held the maners and other lands, &c., called Berewyk, Scoteneys, and Cardeaux, in Toppesfield, the two Yeldhams, Mapiltrested, Haverill, Hengham Sible, and elsewhere. *John*, his son, succeeded him; and held this maner, with the lands, tenements, rents, and services, called Berwykes, Scoteneys, and Cardeaux, that composed the maner of Toppesfield, of Cecily, Duchess of York, as of her maner of Stamburne. He died in 1476. *John Doreward*, of Great Yeldham, Esq., held the same at the time of his death, the last day of February 1496; and *Christian*, his neice, brought it, in marriage, to her husband, *John de Vere*, the 14th Earl of Oxford on whom it was settled, in case of failure of issue, and on his heirs forever. In this noble family it continued, till Edward [the 17th] Earl of Oxford sold it [he having squandered away his various estates] 1st October 1584, to *William Bigge*, of Redgewell; who died possessed of it, 5th January 1585, and of Gounces, Brownes Farm, Broad-oake, with other estates adjoining. By his wife, Dorcas, daughter of John Mooteham, of this parish, Gent.,* he had William, Samuel, *Edward*, and Dorcas. *William*, the eldest son, who lived at Redfens in Shalford, held several parcels of land in this parish, belonging to the adjoining estate of Gunces; but *Edward*, the younger son had the maners of Berwick-hall and Scoteneys. *Edward*, his son, kept his first Court here on the 8th of October 1635.

In 1645, it came into the possession of *Robert Jacob*, Gent, and, in 1651, into that of *John Blackmore*, Esq. On the 23d of April 1658, *Robert Wankford*, Esq., kept his first Court here. He had two daughters by his first wife; and by his second; Robert, baptized 12th June 1631; and Samuel, 18th December 1632. *Robert*, his eldest son, seated at Berwick-hall, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Shelley, of Magdalen-Lavor in this county; and had by her, Berwick,

*She was remarried to William Smyth, of Cressing-Temple, Esq. and dying 18th December 1633, was buried at Cressing. But her grandson, Henry Bigge, Esq. erected a curious monument to her memory in the chancel of St. Margarets.

For illustration of this tablet, see, *The Ancient Sepulchral Monuments of Essex*. By Frederic Chancellor, p. 325, London, 1890.

who died young; *Robert*, Walter, Shelley; and seven daughters; of whom, Anne was married to John Elliston of Overhall in Gestingthorp, and afterwards to George Gent, Esq. Mary was wife of John Littel, of London, druggist; and the youngest, of Thomas Todd, of Sturmere. He died in 1688. *Robert*, his eldest surviving son, had no issue by his first wife, Dorothy, daughter of John Fotherby, of Rickmansworth in Hertfordshire, Esq.; but by his second wife, Mary, daughter of the Rev. John Oseley, Rector of Pantfield, &c., he had several children. He was buried here on the 20th of June, 1708.

Some time after, the maners and demesnes of Berwicks, Scoteneys, and Gaynesfords, coming into the hands of Mr. John Poultnor, Attorney at Law, at Clare, he sold them to *Isaac Helbutt*, a rich merchant; from whom they passed to *Moses Hart*, and to *Wulph Ridolphus*, or, as some call him, *Michael Adolphus*, Esq.

THE MANER OF GAYNESFORDS,

Just now mentioned, took its name from an ancient family, who had also Gobions in this parish, Ashwell-hall in Finchingfield, Nicholls in Shaldford, &c. *Richard Gaynford*, who died 20th May 1484, held lands in this parish, which we suppose to be these. His brother John succeeded him. *William Butcher* held this capital messuage, and 24 acres of land, in Queen Elizabeth's reign. June 14, 1669, Thomas Guyver, with Samuel Edwards and Margaret his wife, daughter of Francis Guyver, sold this capital messuage to *Robert Wankford*; from whom they passed as above. Gaynesfords is near two miles south-west from the church.

THE MANER OF HUSEES.

Roger, son of *John Huse*, upon the death of John de Berewyk in 1312, inherited this estate, to which he gave name. This Roger sprung from the ancient family of Huse in Wiltshire and Dorsetshire; was a great soldier; became a knight; had summons to Parliament in 1348 and 1349, and died in 1361; being seated at Barton Stacy, in Hampshire. *John*, his son, succeeded him. In 1419, Alexander

Eustace and John Wood sold this estate to John Symonds. *Henry Parker*, of Gosfeild, Esq. who died 15th January 1541, held this messuage, called Hosees, and 80 acres of arable and meadow, of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, in socage; besides other parcels here,* and great estates elsewhere. *Roger*, his son, succeeded him. *William Cratchrode*, junior, held this maner in 1585. About the latter end of Queen Elizabeth, it was holden by *John Alston*, of Belchamp Oton, who gave it to his third son, *Matthew*; and and he having no issue, bequeathed it to *Thomas Cracherode*; of whom it was purchased by Colonel *Stephen Piper*; and it is now in the possession of Dr. *Piper* [whose family sold it to Henry Sperling, Esq., of Dines Hall].

THE MANER OF CUST-HALL.

The mansion-house stands near a mile south-west from the church. It took its name from an ancient and considerable family† which were seated here in King Edward the Third's reign. Afterwards, it became the Cracherode family that had long been settled at a place called from them Cracherodes, in this parish. The first of the name that hath occurred to us, was *John Cracherode*, witness to a deed, 17th Richard II. 1393. His son *Robert*, was father of *John*, an Esquire under John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, at the battle of Azincourt. *John Cracherode*, Gent., son of the latter, married Agnes, daughter and heir of Sir John Gates, of Rivenhall; and had by her, *John*; William, Clerk of the Green Cloth to King Henry VIII, and Thomas, who had to wife Brigett, daughter of Aubrey de Vere, second son to John the 15th Earl of Oxford. *John*, the eldest son, paid ingress fine for Cust-hall in 1504. He married Agnes, daughter of Tho. Carter; and departing this life in 1534, was buried in the middle of this church, under a grave-stone,

*Namely, Shoremeadow, Foxholes; a messuage, called Dudmans, and 70 acres of arable and meadow; two tenements, called Griggs and Algers; St. John's Land, &c.

†The Cust family was originally of Yorkshire, but long seated in Lincolnshire; as may be seen in the Baronetage, vol. iv, p. 629, under the article of the Right Hon. Sir *John Cust*, present Speaker of the House of Commons.

with an inscription. They had four sons and four daughters; viz., Helen, wife of William Hunt, of Gosfeild, Gent.; Joan, of John Tendring, of Boreham, Gent.; Julian, of . . . Lee; and Jane, of Peter Fitch, of Writtle, Gent. *William*, the only son whose name is recorded, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Ray, of Denston in Suffolk. They lived 56 years together in wedlock. At the time of his decease, 10th January, 1585, he held this capital messuage, called Custs, and 20 acres of free land, belonging of old thereto; also a messuage, anciently called Cracherodes, and afterwards Colman's, in this parish and in Hedingham Sible; with several other parcels of land; particularly Albegeons, and Camois Parke, Pipers Pond, &c. He, and his wife, which died 17th February 1587, lie both buried in the chancel of this church, under a blue marble stone. They had issue five sons and one daughter; viz., Thomas; Matthew, of Cavendish; John, Charles, William. The daughter, named Anne, was wife of John Mootham.—*Thomas*, the eldest son, married Anne, daughter of Robert Mordaunt, of Hemstead in this county, Esq., a younger branch of the Lord Mordaunt, of Turvey in Bedfordshire; by whom he had William, who died without issue; Thomas; and four daughters: Frances, married to Robert Wilkins, of Bumsted; Anne, to John Alston, of Belchamp-Oton; Elizabeth, to John Fryer, of Paul's-Belchamp, and Barbara, to . . . Harris. He died 14th June 1619.—*Thomas*, his son and heir, then aged 40 years, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Godbolt, of Finchamp in Norfolk; John, of Cranham-hall in Romford; Richard; and three daughters: Elizabeth, Brigett, and Susan.—*Mordaunt*, the eldest son, married Dorothy, daughter of Antony Sammes, of Hatfeild-Peverell. He died 2d of February 1666, and she 6th of March 1692. Both lie buried in this church.—They had issue, Thomas, baptized on the 17th of September 1646; Antony; Mordaunt [who was a linen-draper of London]; and Mary, wife of Christopher Layer, of Boughton-hall, Esq. Thomas, the eldest son, married Anne, daughter of Christopher Layer, of Belchamp St. Paul; by whom he had Thomas, baptized the 1st of June 1680. He was buried in this church the 8th of July 1706. *Thomas*, his son and heir, sold this maner, in 1708, to

Colonel *Stephen Piper*, mentioned a little before [whose family sold in to Henry Sperling, Esq., of Dines Hall].

THE MANER OF CAMOYS,

Is the largest in this parish; consisting, in time past, of two Knight's-fees, holden in the honor of Clare. The mansion-house stands near the church, and formerly had a park. In Edward the Confessor's reign, Got held this lordship, as lying in this parish and Stanburne, and then in two maners; which, at the time of the survey, belonged to Hamo Dapifer. How long it continued united with Stamborne, we cannot certainly discover.

Sir Ralph de Camoys,* from whom it borrowed its name, held it under Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, in 1262, as two Knight's-fees. He was a man of great note in his time; and after the taking of King Henry III, prisoner at the battle of Lewes, was chosen, by the discontented Barons, one of their Council of State, to govern the Realm.† He was also summoned to Parliament, 24th December 1264. He died in 1276.—*John*,‡ his son and successor, was father of *Ralph*, who gave this estate, in free-marriage with his daughter *Ela*, to *Peter Gonsell*, or Gonshill. This family was originally of Yorkshire; *Giles Gonsell*, by Eminentia, daughter of Fulk de Oyry, of Gedney in Lincolnshire, had *Peter*; who, by the said *Ela* his wife, had *Ralph* and *Margaret*. *Ralph* dying in 1295, was succeeded by his sister, *Margaret*, who had two husbands, first, *Philip le Despenser*, 4th son of Hugh le Despenser, Earl of Gloucester. He

*The name of Cammois is in the list of those that came in with William the Conqueror.—*Chronic. J. Bromton*, col. 963.

†See *Dugdale's Baron. vol. i, p. 767*.

‡This John married *Margaret*, daughter and heir of Sir John de Gaten-den; and she forsaking him, and living in adultery with Sir William Paynel, John de Cameys, as he calls himself, quitted all his right and title to her, as also to all her goods and chattels, spontaneously delivering and demising her unto the said Sir William, and releasing all title and claim to her and her appertenances; as appears by the deed, printed at length in Sir William Dugdale's *Baron. vol. i, p. 767*.—After her lawful husband's decease, she was married to the said Sir William, and claimed thirds of Camoys estate; which the Parliament, out of due regard to morality and law, refused her.

departing this life in 1313, she took to her second husband, Sir John Roos, and lived till 1349. By her first husband, she had *Philip le Despenser*; who, at the time of his decease, in 1349, jointly with Joane his wife, held, of the Lady of Clare, a tenement here called Camoy's-hall, by the service aforesaid. *Philip*, his son, by . . . daughter of . . . Strange, had *Philip*, who died in 1400; leaving, by his wife, Margaret Cobham, Sir *Philip*, his son and heir, that departed this life in 1423, and held this maner of Edward, Earl of March; as also those of Lyndsell, Little Stambridge, and a fourth part of the maner of Thaxted. He married Elizabeth, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir Robert Tiptoft; and by her he had his only daughter and heir, *Margery*. She was married, first, to Sir *Roger Wentworth*, third son of John Wentworth, of Elmes-hall in Yorkshire, Esq. a younger branch of the Wentworths, of Wentworth Woodhouse; from whence are descended the Earls of Stratford. Her second husband was John Lord Rosse; by whom she had no issue. But by her first husband, she had two sons; *Philip*; and *Henry*, the first of this family seated at Codham-hall; from whom sprung the Wentworths, of Gosfeild and Bocking; and several daughters. She died the 20th of April 1475. Sir *Philip Wentworth*, her eldest son, and heir to this estate, married Mary, daughter of John Lord Clifford; and had by her, Sir *Henry*, father of Sir *Richard*, a Knight-Banneret; who, by Anne, daughter of Sir James Tyrell, of Gipping in Suffolk, had Sir *Thomas Wentworth*, of Nettlested, created Baron Wentworth the 2d of December 1529. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Adrian Fortescue; and had by her, *Thomas*, Lord *Wentworth*, who held his first Court here the 16th of June 1551.—He had also the maners Hackney and Stepney; and was the last Governor of Calais under Queen Mary I. The 4th of 13th of May 1557, he sold Camoys-hall to *William Fitch*, Esquire, of Little Canfield. It continued little more than twenty years in his name, for he dying the 20th of December 1578, it came to his son *Thomas*; who surviving him but a little while, it then fell to his only daughter and heir, *Mary*, that had been married, about the year 1556, to *Francis Mannoock*, Esq. . . . who died 3d of November 1590 and was succeeded by his

son *William*; whose son and heir, *Francis*, was created a Baronet the 1st of June 1627; and had for successors, Sir *Francis* and Sir *William*. The latter sold this estate, the 25th of March 1713, to *Matthias Unwin*, of Castle Heddingham, Gent, who died the 18th of September 1715; and, by will, bequeathed Camoys-hall to his brother's son, *Joseph*. This latter dying in September 1747, was succeeded by his eldest son, *Joseph Unwin*, Gent. [of Castle Heddingham.]

FLOWERS-HALL,

Is about two miles south south-west from the church. From a family that existed here from 1369 to 1572, it took the name of Flowers. *Thomas Glascock*, who died 29th October 1631, held the maner and capital messuage called Flowers-hall, Giddings, and Brownes, with appertenances, of Edward Benlowes, Esq, of his maner of Justices, in Finchingfield, by the annual rent of 8 s. one cock, one hen, and an egg and a half. It was afterwards *Henry Glascocks*.* This estate paid quit-rent to Nortofts in Finchingfeild.

GOBIONS,

Is denominated from an ancient knightly family, surnamed Gobyon, that had considerable estates at Finchingfeild, Bardfeild, Great Lees, Laindow, East Tilbury, &c. . . . Sir Thomas Gobion was High Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1323. . . . John Gobyon is in the list of the gentry of this county in 1433. *Richard Gainford*, mentioned above, under Gaynesfords, held this maner of Gobyns in 1483, of John Doreward, as of his maner of Great Yeldham. *John*, his brother, was his heir. It was afterwards in the Wentworth family.

HAWKES-HALL,

Formerly belonged to a family surnamed De Hausted; from whom it passed to the St. Martins, and the noble family of Bourchier; in which last it continued long. Some of their

*This estate afterwards became the property of Mr. Ralph Jephson, by marriage with the daughter of William Raymond, of Notley.

mesne or under-tenants were, Joane, daughter of John Gilderich, of Peches in Finchingfeild, about 1422; and John Helyoun, Lord of the maner of Bumstead-Helion, in 1450. It is described as comprehending 100 acres of arable, 8 acres of meadow, 8 acres of pasture, and 10 acres of wood. It passed since to Bendlowes, &c., as Justices in Finchingfeild.

THE MANER OF BRADFIELD,

Near a mile sout-west from the church, was holden, about the year 1393, by John Bradfend or Bradfeild, from whom it received its name. He had also the maner of Nicholls in Shalford. William Toppesfeild held it of John Durward, at the time of his decease, in 1480; and his two daughters, Elizabeth and *Joane* Toppesfeild, were his heirs. The latter brought it in marriage to . . . *Paynell*, and was his widow in 1498. The Paynell, or Pannell family, was in these parts as early as the reign of King Edward I, and had an estate at Redgewell, where John Pannell lived in 1385, and his posterity continued till the reign of King James I. *Henry Pannell*, Esq., who died the 18th of July 1573, held this maner of Bradfield of the Earl of Oxford, as of his maner of Berewikes, and other lands here. His son and heir, *Henry*, was then 12 years old. [This estate afterwards passed into the hands of Mr. John Darby, of Little Waltham, Essex co., and at his death devolved to Mr. Solomon Edwards of Thackstead.]*

*Some curious Roman remains were found on June 28, 1800, by a labourer making a ditch at the bottom of Red Bamfield, belonging to Bradfield Farm, situate about two miles west by south of the ancient Roman road from Camulodunum to Camboritum, (Colchester to Cambridge).

"The sword blade, which was very much corroded and broken in two or three places, lay across the breast of the skeleton found therewith; it was rather a singular situation, for in general they are found by the side of the person interred.

The metal vase and *patera* merit attention. The vase was of that form which Montfaucon calls a *præfericulum* used by the Romans at their sacrifices for pouring wine into the *patera*.

The uses of the elegant little cups of Samian ware, one of which has an ornamented border, have not, that I can find, been ascertained. As they were interred with the corpse we may suppose them to have contained holy oil, gums, balsams, unguents, &c., but this is conjecture only. The real purposes to which they were applied must remain at present in obscurity; we only know that such things were

OLIVERS is an ancient capital messuage in this parish, about three quarters of a mile south-east from the church. John Oliver purchased an estate of John de Raclesden, about 1360, which is supposed to have been this. He was one of Sir. John Hawkwood's Esquires, companions, and fellow-warriors; and concerned in founding his Chantry.*

Richard Simon was possessed, in 1627, of this tenement, called Olivers and Dudmans, and, in 1631, Thomas Glascock, above mentioned, had a messuage, and 12 acres of land thereto belonging, called Olivers; † with Ashleies and Gadleies, two other parcels. Here were in this parish two acres and a half of land, called Molle, given for one obit and a lamp;

used at their funeral obsequies, particularly unguents and perfumes of several kinds for anointing the body before interment; therefore we may conclude that they were used at the funeral, and were afterwards deposited with the body, according to the custom of the ancients.

Only one Roman coin was found, and that very imperfect. Whether it was the *obolus*, the *naulum Charontis*, is left for others to determine. A nail and a handle of a bronze *patera* were found at the same time."—*Archæologia*, vol. xiv, pp. 24-26, 2 plates, London, 1803.

*The friends and executors of Sir. John Hawkwood founded a famous *chantry*, for one. Chaplain in the church of Hedingham, to pray for the souls of Sir John Hawkwood, Thomas Oliver, and John Newton, Esquires, his military companions, supposed to be born in this county. The license for this foundation was in 1412; and the endowment consisted of 4 messuages, 4 tofts, 420 acres of arable, 13 acres of meadow, 20 of pasture, 4 of wood, 22 of alder, and 12 s. rent, in Sible and Castle Hengham, Gosfeild, Mapiltrested, Great and Little Gelham, and Toppesfeild. The house where the Chantry Priest lived stands at some distance from the church, and bore then, and still bears, the name of Hostage; having originally been a charitable foundation for the entertainment of devout Pilgrims. The patronage of this chantry belonged to the Lord of the maner of Hawkwoods.

†This estate was occupied at one time, by Samuel Symonds, gent., who came to New England, in 1637, and settled at Ipswich, where the town granted him a farm of five hundred acres, lying partly within the present bounds of Topsfield. This farm was known on the records as "Olivers." See *ante*, pp. 40, 41.

The family of Symonds was originally of Croft in Lancashire, where they continued in a direct line for about twenty generations. Richard Symonds of the third generation was seated in Great Yeldham, at "The Pool," on the eastern bank of the river Colne. He married, Jan. 9, 1580, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Plumb, of Yeldham Hall. Samuel, the third son, married Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Harlakenden, of Earl's-Colne; was a Cursitor in Chancery; and had Oliver's in Toppesfield; but retired to New England with his family. *Morant*.

with about three acres more; which, at the suppression of Chantries, were granted to Thomas Golding, Esq. Samuel Hurrell, John Piper, Geoffrey Cook, Matthias and Edmund Davey, Tho. Orford, and Tho. Teader, have also estates here. This parish is rated to the land-tax at 1692 £. 1 s. 4 d.

The CHURCH, dedicated to St. Margaret, is tolerably handsome and spacious. It was formerly, all leaded; but is now only so in part. The chancel is tiled. About 70 years ago, the tower, which was built of flint and stone fell down; but hath since been rebuilt, of brick, in a firm and substantial manner; towards which, Mr. Wilde, Rector at the time it fell, bequeathed 100 £. To it belong five bells. Here was, anciently, a rectory and vicarage; of both which, the Priör and Convent of Stoke near Clare, whilst a priory, and when a college, the Dean and Chapter, were patrons. In what year, and by whom given to them, is unknown. The rectory was a sinecure; and so continued, till Thomas Kemp, Bishop of London, finding the vicarage was grown so poor* that it could not maintain a Vicar, or discharge the burdens incumbent thereon, so that it had been vacant and neglected several years, he reunited and incorporated again the rectory and vicarage. At the dissolution of religious houses, the patronage of this rectory coming to the Crown, King Edward VI. gave it to his proceptor, Sir John Cheke; upon whose unhappy fall, it reverted to the Crown, and hath remained in it ever since; it being a considerable living. There are lands of about six pounds a year, belonging to the church.

TOPSFIELD, ENG. * * * "I found the ride exceedingly pleasant, along the narrow but excellent road, which winds its way through an unbroken succession of luxuriant cornfields and meadows. * * * It was evening when I arrived, and the 'Green Man Inn' received me. This is a small, but neat and comfortable tavern, and bears the marks

*At the petition of William Parker then rector, with the consent of the dean and chapter of St. Paul, and the arch-deacon of Middlesex.

of a respectable antiquity. It is, in fact, just such a place as the ale-house of Goldsmith's poem, and has been, I presume, the nightly resort of the Toppesfield politicians, for at least two hundred years.

When I went out the next morning, I found myself in a small village, composed of stone cottages, mostly plastered, white-washed and thatched. I saw nothing in them particularly pleasing, beyond that aspect of neatness, and those floral adornings, which rarely desert even the meanest rural home in that beautiful country. My first visit was to the church of St. Margaret. * * *

The interior interested me much. A place of worship more rude in aspect, or less adapted to comfort, it would, I am sure, be difficult to find in all New England. * * *

The pews are narrow, upright boxes, with high sides, and, with the exception of the Rector's, are uncushioned and uncarpeted, a few of them, however, were supplied with straw covered hassocks. Upon the southern side there are four Gothic arches, which rest upon short thick columns. On this side there is a low gallery, erected, as an inscription shows, in 1833. The pulpit and reading desk are on the opposite side. These are of oak, and the former resembles, in shape and appearance, that interesting relic, the old Capen pulpit. * * *

[In the church registers I found] the name of Samuel Symonds, gent., and that of Dorothy his wife. Between 1621 and 1633, I found and copied the baptisms of ten of their children. * * *

The Parsonage is a charming residence, surrounded by flowers and shrubbery, and smooth-shaven lawns. The present incumbent lives among his people and seems to be regarded with respect and affection. * * *

Here I was in a community of several hundred people, not a man of whom owns one rood of the land which he cultivates—not an individual of whom possesses the house that shelters him. These skillful farmers are tenants at will—and are perpetually struggling under an oppressive burden of rents, and tythes, and taxes, and rates. These hardy laborers think they do well, if their toil yields them the average remuneration of a shilling a day. As to religious privileges they have indeed a sitting, hired or free, in yonder rude church. Their Rector, sent them by the Queen, may be a good man, or he may

not. With the question of his appointment or dismissal, they have just as much concern as you have. They are, however, permitted to pay him. From that glebe, which is made so rich by their sweat, he draws an annual stipend, three times as large as that which you raise for your two clergymen. And here, in a parish which pays its Rector more than thirty-five hundred dollars a year,—here within four hours ride of the grand metropolis of the world, here, in the middle of the nineteenth century, a free school is a thing which yet remains to be invented.”—*Nehemiah Cleaveland, in Salem Register, Nov. 1851.*

TOPPESFIELD, ENG. * * * “At Yeldham the only cab we could find was a little dog-cart with a Welch pony that hardly came up to the shafts. However, this was all that was necessary and the owner told us he would take us for two shillings if we ‘didn’t think that much would harm us.’ He proved himself capable of giving considerable information about the church and the chapels (as Congregational and Methodist churches are called in England) as his father had been Parish Clerk at Yeldham for a good many years, but when I asked him the origin of the name Toppesfield his answer was: ‘Well, that’s a question I could hardly answer, Sir. They must-a-caught it as it come along. Come by a whirlwind perhaps.’ Mr. Lane, the genial teacher of the parish, told us that the only reason he could find was from the fact of its being the topmost village in the shire. * * * We had been informed that some years before, a gentleman from Topsfield, America, had come to see the graves of his ancestors; the woman who told us could not remember the name, and so we mentioned over the names of Cleveland, Peabody, Bradstreet, thinking it might be some of these, but none of them seemed familiar. Finally the mother came in and said: ‘Why, it was the one who had six wives, Joseph Smith* was the name.’

*Joseph Smith, the Mormon prophet, was of Topsfield ancestry. The Smith referred to may have been a descendant.

The present school was built in 1856 by the then Rector, Rev. Mr. Gooch. It has accommodations for two hundred children and has one hundred and forty names on the register."—*Rev. Lyndon S. Crawford, in Salem Gazette, Nov. 25, 1886.*

TOPPESFIELD, ENG. * * * "All the fields are separated by hedges and these are generally well kept. The whole country looks neat and tidy. * * * The village was but a handful of houses along a narrow road or two, without any sidewalks to speak of. We left our traps at the 'Green Man' inn and got a glass of home brew, rather sour and not very good. * * * The Church itself is not at all large, and would hardly seat two hundred persons. It was built early in the 16th century, and has been very well preserved. Even during the Commonwealth, it was not much disturbed. It is one of the very few parishes whose records are kept throughout that period without a break. We were assured that that was a very unusual circumstance."—*Brandreth Symonds, in Essex County Mercury, Oct. 24, 1894.*

TOPPESFIELD, ENG. * * * In approaching Toppesfield, the high hills of the town come into view before the train leaves you in the valley. The station building might be called a primitive one:—old, dilapidated, and inconvenient. Nevertheless it serves for the transaction of the limited business of a small country station. The village is about one and a half miles from the station, if one takes the short cut across the fields on foot in a direct line. The road makes a detour in a southerly and southwesterly and then in a northwesterly course to avoid the steep acclivity, and covers about two miles before reaching the village. The way for the most part is a gentle ascent,—one rise of many rods being steeper than the rest.

We first reach that part of the village where the rectory is located. It is large and commodious for a place of the size of that in which it is situated. The building is almost entirely obscured by shade trees, shrubbery and evergreen. Passing on some twenty or thirty rods, in a northerly direction, going by several dwellings we come to the end of the street that we have traversed. Here we meet another street lying east and west,—the principal street of the village. Near the right hand corner is St. Margaret's—the parish church. Farther on to the right is the school house. Near the left hand corner is a chapel where the Nonconformists worship. To the westward some rods, is the post-office.

I did not explore the whole village, but it will be seen by the location of the public buildings that I was in the central and most important part of it. St. Margaret's Church has been an active force in the village for eight hundred years. . . . The interior as well as the exterior has all the marks of an old structure. Few changes have been made in modern times that conceal its ancient appearance. * * * A tablet on the wall of the interior has a list of rectors extending back three hundred years and more, I transcribed some of the names that may be interesting to Topsfield people. 1559, Thomas Donnell, B. D.; 1601, William Smith; 1604, Randolph Davenport; 1662, Nathaniel Ward; 1691, Thomas Willett; 1694, Robert Wilde.

A curious fact to be noticed in the list of rectors is that in the days of the Commonwealth there is a break in the list with a statement that there was a vacancy in those years. Although there was no "rector," doubtless there was preaching in the church by Dissenters in that interval. The church stands in the midst of, and is entirely surrounded by the churchyard. The small cemetery is still in use for burials. I noticed that they were opening graves in what appeared to be the oldest part of the yard. The inscriptions on the oldest monuments are illegible as well they might be in a cemetery eight hundred years old. I noticed the monument of Henry Howlett, who died in 1773, aged 72.

The chapel of the Nonconformists I did not enter. It is a very plain and unpretending building.

The post office is in the house of the post master. Apartments of modest proportions are set apart for the government office. There is no room for the floating population of the town to assemble in for social intercourse, to talk over the news of the day, and enjoy the village gossip. In fact if there was such a place in the village I failed to discover it.

The houses, barns, and out-buildings are generally built of brick. The style of architecture is not pretentious. There is not the facility for architectural display in small brick buildings, that there is by working in wood. I noticed here as well as through England, as far as I travelled, the projecting second story of old houses, like that of our own Capen house. One house in particular, better than the average, in the old style, I was informed was a modern built house. They have a way in England, and I think to a great extent, of building after the style of several hundred years ago, to have the buildings conform those in the neighborhood.

The most of the people, I suppose, would be reckoned in the middle class. Some as indigent or poor. The better classes have comfortable homes, and show intelligence and cultivation.

Toppesfield is especially an agricultural town. It has a good soil. The soil of Essex is not as fertile as that of some other parts of the kingdom. I heard Englishmen in speaking of the county, say that the land in Essex is poor. Such may be the case as far as the county in general is considered, but I think an exception must be made in the case of the plateau upon which Toppesfield is situated; for there the farmers were harvesting good crops and the land was making abundant returns for the labor and skill of the husbandmen; much better probably than the average of the county. The principal crops are wheat, barley, vegetables and hay. Being remote from any large town, market gardening is not carried on. Much of the hay crop is stacked in the fields where it is gathered, as it is in other parts of England. I noticed stacks that had breasted the storms of one or more winters, notwithstanding the great demand for forage on account of the wars in which the nation was engaged. The barley

product is largely used for malt to brew the universal English beer. It was wheat harvest when I was there. I saw an abundant yield of wheat on the highest land in the village, as large, I should judge, as that of the most fertile parts of the island. The parish of St. Margeret's has some of the best land in the place, I do not know how many acres, some of which is divided into small "allotments," each of an acre or less, one half, one quarter, or one eighth of an acre. These are let, at a low rental, to indigent people of the parish who have no land, the proceeds of which go to help other poor people.

The following Toppesfield names taken from the voting list are of interest as being common to our own Topsfield and vicinity:—Allen, Barker, Barnes, Clarke, Davison, Hale, Hardy, Palmer, Reed, Rice, Smith, Wilson.

Justin Allen, M. D., March 15, 1901.

THREE TOPSFIELD MINISTERS:

SOME ACCOUNT OF REV. DANIEL BRECK, REV. ASAHEL
HUNTINGTON, AND REV. RODNEY GOVE DENNIS.

[From Contributions to the Ecclesiastical History of
Essex County, Mass. Boston, 1865.]

REV. DANIEL BRECK.

The following letter was received from his son, Hon.
Daniel Breck of Kentucky.

RICHMOND, Ky., July 16, 1861.

Messrs. L. WITHINGTON, etc., Committee, etc.

Dear Sirs,—Causes, too numerous to mention, have occasioned the delay in furnishing the desired information in your circular of March last, in regard to the Rev. Daniel Breck, deceased, and family. I take pleasure now, although at so late an hour, in furnishing the information requested.

Rev. Daniel Breck was born at Boston, Massachusetts, on the 29th of August, A. D. 1748 (o. s.).

He was the son of John and Margaret Breck. The maiden name of the latter was Thomas. He was baptized in infancy.

He graduated at Princeton, Nassau Hall, in 1774. His theological studies were prosecuted under the care of the Rev. Drs. Bellamy and West. Was a chaplain in the Continental Army, and before Quebec in the winter of 1776. After leaving the army, he visited what was then called the

North West Territory, and preached the first Protestant sermon ever delivered north and west of the Ohio River.* This was at the spot where Marietta, in Ohio, now stands. His text was Luke 1: 33, "And of his kingdom there shall be no end."

On the 17th day of November, 1779, he was ordained as the pastor of a church in Topsfield, Massachusetts, and continued till the 26th day of May, 1788, when he removed to Hartland, Vermont, and November 11, 1789, became its first settled minister. He continued to preach there until dismissed by a council, January 27, 1797, and died there on the 12th day of August, 1845, retaining in a remarkable degree all his faculties, and departing in the full triumph of Christian faith.

He was married in March, 1786, in Topsfield, Massachusetts, to Hannah Porter, the daughter of Elijah and Dorothy Porter, Clark being the maiden name of the latter.

Names, birth, etc., of the children of David and Hannah Breck, as follows:

1. Elizabeth, born in Topsfield, 29th January, 1787; died the wife of Henry Hall of Ohio, 1853.

2. Daniel, born in Topsfield, Feb. 12, 1788; grad. D. C. 1812; LL. D. Transyl. Coll. 1843; Rep. in Congress from Kentucky, 1849-51; appointed Judge of Sup. Court in that State, 1843.

3. Hannah, born in Topsfield, 19th of August, 1789; died in 1848.

4. Samuel, born in Hartland, 16th of March, 1792; educated in Vermont, and at the Medical College in the city of New York, where he received the degree of M. D.

5. Dorothy, born in Hartland, on the 9th of July, 1793.

6. Abigail, born in Hartland, Vt., on the 13th of September, 1795.

7. Lucy, born in Hartland, Vt., on the 16th of October, 1799; died in 1839.

8. Clarissa, born in Hartland, Vt., on the 1st of July, 1802; died on the 17th of March, 1804.

9. Mary, born in Hartland, Vt., on the 23d of November, 1803; died in 1829.

*See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. III. p. 7.

He first united with the church of the Rev. Dr. Byles, of Hollis Street Church, Boston, Mass.

I am unable to furnish a list of sermons and addresses published by him.

Most respectfully,

Your Obt. Servant,

DANIEL BRECK.

STRAFFORD, August 22, 1861.

Nothing was ever published from his pen. Living so early as he did, and coming to Vt. when every thing was in infancy, it was not so easy as now to come before the public by the press. The Rev. Mr. Breck was a good scholar and a very accomplished gentleman. In close connexion with his dismission at Hartland, he withdrew from the active duties and labors of the ministry. By reason of being the first ordained minister of the town, he received a lot of land of a hundred acres, well located, and he gave himself to the cultivation of that land. There he lived to the end of his course. He was a magistrate and town clerk many years. Was greatly respected by all who knew him, and by many even venerated.

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL DELANO.

The following is the inscription upon a modest marble headstone, set up at his grave—

REV. DANIEL BRECK,

Died at Hartland, Vt. August 12, 1845, aged 97.

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

That of his wife is,

HANNAH,

wife of Rev. Daniel Breck,
died June 15, 1838, aged 79.

"Saviour! how dear that precious name, when Death's cold finger touches one we love."

REV. ASAHEL HUNTINGTON,

Was born in Franklin, Ct., March 17, 1761. His paternal ancestors were among the earliest settlers of Norwich, of which Franklin was a part before its incorporation as a town. (The first white person buried in the town of Norwich, Conn., bore the name of Christopher Huntington.) His grandfather, Dea. Christopher Huntington, died at an advanced age, leaving four sons, namely,—Christopher, Theophilus, Elisha, and Barnabas. His father, Barnabas, was born June, 1728, and died April 14, 1787. He, also, worthily sustained the office of deacon, was an active and influential patriot in the days of the Revolution, and was greatly respected for his moral worth. His mother, whose maiden name was Anne Wright, was born October, 18, 1732, and lived to nearly the age of one hundred years. She was a woman of great excellence of character, and a pious and devoted Christian. Under the faithful instruction and guidance of such parents, the subject of this notice made an early public profession of religion, which he illustrated and adorned through the remainder of his life.

He determined to devote himself to the work and duties of the gospel ministry, and pursued his studies, preparatory for college, under the tuition of his pastor, the Rev. Samuel Nott, D. D., of Franklin, who still survives, as minister of the same church and people, being now nearly one hundred years of age; and it is but a few years past, that this truly venerable patriarch has had the aid of a colleague pastor. Mr. Huntington was graduated at Dartmouth College, under the administration of the elder President Wheelock, in the class of 1786. At the time of his graduation, he pronounced the valedictory address, then esteemed the most distinguished

appointment of the exercises at commencement. Among his classmates at college were several who afterwards became much distinguished in public life,—among whom may be named, the late Judge Calvin Goddard, of Norwich, Ct., for many years a member of Congress, afterwards a member of the Hartford Convention, and eminent through life as a jurist and civilian; and the late Hon. Charles Marsh, LL. D., of Woodstock, Vt.,—greatly distinguished at the bar, and in the public councils of his own State. In the clerical profession, we may also mention the names of the late Rev. Dr. Strong of Randolph, Mass., and Rev. Peter Sanborn of Reading,—both of them highly respectable in their profession, and who fulfilled all the duties of the ministry with great fidelity and success.

Mr. Huntington pursued his theological studies for the term of nearly three years under private teachers (public seminaries of theological instruction being then unknown), at first, under the direction and auspices of the Rev. Dr. Charles Backus, of Somers, Ct., an eminent divine of his day, who educated many of the clergy of that period; and afterwards under Rev. Dr. Levi Hart, of Preston (now Griswold), Ct.

He was ordained as pastor of the Congregational Church and Society in Topsfield, November 12, 1789, as successor of the Rev. Daniel Breck. His former instructor, Dr. Hart, preached his ordination sermon.

He was married to Althea Lord, daughter of Elisha Lord, M. D., of Pomfret, Ct., June 2, 1791. Having fulfilled a successful, harmonious, and useful ministry, among an entirely united and devoted church and people, for a period of nearly twenty-four years, he died April 22, 1813, after a sickness (throat distemper) of five days, leaving a widow, who departed this life at the residence of her son in Lowell, August 31, 1850, in the eighty-fourth year of her age, the day but one following the Centennial Celebration of the town. He left five children; namely,—

1. Althea, born Oct. 10, 1792; died Aug. 26, 1814.
2. Elisha, born April 9, 1796.
3. Asahel, born July 23, 1798.
4. Hezekiah, born June 30, 1800; died June 8, 1828.

5. Mary Anne, who was born Aug. 18, 1802, and died May 9, 1836.

Of the surviving children, Elisha Huntington, M. D., resides in Lowell, Mass., and Asahel Huntington, counsellor-at-law, in Salem, Mass.

The discourse, at the funeral of the Rev. Mr. Huntington, was preached by his long-trying and intimate friend, Rev. Isaac Braman of Rowley (now Georgetown), who still survives, and, in the enjoyment of a green old age, is still able to minister at the altar,—a model clergyman, as he is a model man. The discourse was published in connection with a sermon, partly written out by Mr. Huntington on the same day that he was stricken with his last sickness, from the text,—“Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.”

Mr. Huntington published several occasional discourses. He was a discriminating and faithful preacher. His theological opinions were strictly evangelical; but being a truly wise man, and affectionate and conciliatory in all his intercourse with his people, he secured and retained their confidence, attachment, and respect throughout the entire period of his ministry. In the private relations of life, he was a model of all that was good and excellent. His praise is still in the churches, as well as in the hearts of all who possessed an intimate knowledge of his character and virtues.

We close this brief sketch with an extract from the funeral discourse of Rev. Mr. Braman.

“His moral and religious character was without a blot. In all social and relative duties he was faithful and scrupulously exact. Of conjugal affection and paternal tenderness and fidelity, he was a model. As a friend, (and to whom was he not a friend?) he was affectionate and sincere. Modest and unassuming, as well as of a social turn, he was uncommonly amiable as a companion. As if born for the sole purpose of comforting the afflicted, and making his fellow-creatures happy, his life was that of active benevolence. As a minister of the gospel, his praise is in the churches, among the people of God, who are willing to hear divine truth, though it come to them in a still small voice. In prayer, he was fervent, solemn and devout. To know the mind of the

Lord was his first object, and then to declare it to his hearers for their instruction and benefit. A faithful servant of Christ, mindful of his responsibility to him, and sincere in his affection for his people, he watched for their souls as one that must give an account; not shunning to declare the whole counsel of God."

At this period there was a remarkable partiality for Scripture *Christian* names, especially in Connecticut. The names of the five sons of Deacon Barnabas Huntington, and in the order of their birth, were *Barnabas*, *Azariah*, *Asahel*, *Hezekiah* and *Gurdon*, all of whom are now deceased. There are two sisters still surviving, at a very advanced age. The paternal estate in Franklin, which has been in the family for five generations (no portion of it having been alienated), is now owned by *Azariah*, son of Azariah, above named,—a lineal descendant of the original settler, whose name was Christopher.

SALEM, August, 1851.

This account drawn up by an affectionate son, tallies with the traditional memory which the preacher left, as I have always heard it. He was a man of the greatest kindness, delighting to oblige, and showing his love to God by his benevolence to man in great and little things.—L. W.

REV. RODNEY GOVE DENNIS,

Was born in New Boston, N. H., April 17, 1791; and was the son of Arthur and Mary (Goodhue) Dennis. He was baptized when about five years of age. He fitted for college at Appleton Academy, New Ipswich, N. H. While pursuing his academic studies in that town, in the autumn of 1811, during a powerful and extensive revival of religion, his mind was specially impressed with his relations and accountability to God; and at that time he became a Christian. He united with the Congregational church in New Ipswich, N. H., Feb. 2, 1812. In the autumn of 1813, he entered the Sophomore class in Bowdoin College. He graduated in 1816, and took his second degree in 1820. The same autumn in which he left college he entered the Theological Seminary at Andover, and graduated in 1819. He was approbated by the Association of Salem and vicinity, July 13, 1819.

He was ordained at Topsfield, Oct. 4, 1820; dismissed May 18, 1829; installed at Somers, Ct., June 30, 1830. His health being seriously impaired, he was dismissed June 30, 1839. Since that time he has not resumed the pastoral office, but at different times has had the temporary pastoral care of several churches.

Mr. Dennis was married in Billerica, Nov. 28, 1820, to Mary Parker, eldest daughter of Stephen and Mary (Duren) Parker of Billerica.

The names of their children are,—

1. Mary, b. Nov. 30, 1821; d. Jan. 30, 1856, aged 34.
2. Theodosia, b. March 10, 1823, in Topsfield.
3. Jesse Appleton, b. May 28, 1824, in Topsfield; d. Oct. 27, 1854, aged 30.

4. Jane Abigail, b. May 28, 1824, in Topsfield.
5. Rodney, b. January 14, 1826, in Topsfield.
6. Joseph, b. Feb. 14, 1828, in Topsfield; d. July 13, 1854, aged 26.
7. Edward Parker, b. Dec. 1, 1829, in Topsfield.
8. Isabella Homes, b. May 8, 1833, in Somers, Ct.
9. Frances Louisa, b. Aug. 25, 1834, in Somers, Ct.
10. Henrietta Pease, b. Oct. 26, 1828, in Somers, Ct.

They adopted, when a child, Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Dea. Samuel Todd of Topsfield. She married Theodore D. Billings, Esq.

Jesse Appleton was educated at Amherst and Rutger's College; and Joseph at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the city of New York.

The deceased children all died in the faith of the gospel, and all the survivors are members of the Christian church.

The publications of Mr. Dennis are, *A Right Hand of Fellowship*, given March 7, 1821, at the Ordination of Elijah Demond, in West Newbury.

1. *A Speech* delivered at the First Anniversary of the Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society of Essex Co., held at Newburyport, April 10, 1827.

2. *An Address* delivered at the opening of the Topsfield Academy, May 7, 1828.

3. *Two Sermons*.—Christ seen by Every Eye, and a Pastor's Farewell to his People, preached to the Cong. Church and Society in Somers, Conn., June 30, 1839. Published in Hartford, Ct., 1840.

NOTE ON REV. JOSEPH CUMMINGS.

BY MISS ELIZA PHILBRICK.

[*See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. V. p. 25.*]

Rev. Joseph Cummings, son of Joseph and Mary (Hale) Cummings, was born Dec. 27, 1745, in Ipswich, Mass., in a part of the town afterwards annexed to Topsfield. He married Dec. 5, 1776, Anna Gove, of Seabrook, N. H., daughter of Jonathan and Hannah (Worthen) Gove. She was born April 2, 1754, in Seabrook, then Hampton Falls, in the house built in 1713, by her grandfather John Gove, on the farm purchased in 1665 by her great-grandfather, the famous Edward Gove, who was a member of the first New Hampshire Assembly. For approving the arbitrary measures of Governor Cranfield, he was arrested for high treason, and confined for three years in the Tower of London. Anna Gove, like most of the Gove family, belonged to the Society of Friends.

Joseph Cummings studied theology in Seabrook, N. H., with Rev. Samuel Perley, who was pastor of the Presbyterian Church and Society in Seabrook from 1769 to 1777. There Rev. Joseph Cummings made the acquaintance of Anna Gove. "It has been said that she was one of the most beautiful, polite and accomplished young ladies in Seabrook. As such, and being possessed of a good estate, she became the object of the attentions not only of Joseph Cummings, but of John Eaton, as may be seen by the following pasquinade, which made its appearance soon after Mr. Cummings came to town."

"Eaton, John, to meeting doth go,
The Quakers for to please,
But not so much for Anna Gove
As for the walnut trees."

Another way we have heard the lines repeated is as follows:

"John Eaton went to meeting
The Quakers for to please,
Not so much for Anna Gove,
As for her walnut trees."

Rev. Joseph Cummings was ordained pastor of the church in Marlborough, N. H., Nov. 11, 1778, with a salary of £ 40 for the first year and one hundred and fifty acres of land. He was dismissed from his charge Dec. 26, 1780, and soon after returned to Topsfield with his family. After a while he went to Ohio as land agent for the Massachusetts Company and while returning home became ill, and stopping at Marlborough, at the home of his brother Amos, died there on Sept. 24, 1788. His widow died in Topsfield, July 22, 1792.

Rev. Charles Cummings, the first child of Rev. Joseph and Anna (Gove) Cummings, was born in Seabrook, N. H., Sept. 23, 1777. He was known as Elder Cummings. "A Baptist Church was constituted at Alstead, N. H., Nov. 1822, consisting of forty members, and the first pastor was Rev. Charles Cummings." He married Oct. 9, 1798, Polly, daughter of Deacon Elias and Molly (Patterson) Hemmenway. He died Dec. 27, 1849; his widow died July 8, 1857.

Their children were:

- i. Charles, b. June 28, 1799; m. 1st, Lydia Higby of Alstead; m. 2d, Ruth Smart. Settled in West Windsor, Ohio; d. 1870.
- ii. Elias Patterson, b. 1802; d. 1813.
- iii. Mary, b. Aug. 22, 1807; m. Luke Hemmenway. In 1831, she was residing in Florence, Italy.
- iv. Joseph Elliot, b. June 15, 1811; m. Daphne Wright of Washington, N. H.; settled in Lexington, Mich., where he died in 1855.
- v. Enoch Patterson, b. March 28, 1815; m. 1st, Dolly Pillsbury of Sutton, N. H.; m. 2d, Mary Russell Sutton of Sutton; lived in Concord, N. H.
- vi. Cyrus, b. Sept. 5, 1817; m. Harriet Condon; lived in Michigan.

- vii. Anna Gove, b. Nov. 22, 1820, in Sullivan, N. H.; married Elijah Boyden.

NOTE ON SAMUEL CUMMINGS OF LUNENBURG, MASS.

Samuel⁴ Cummings, son of Thomas³ (Isaac² Isaac¹), born 3d April, 1706, went to Lunenburg in 1727 and was the eleventh settler of the town, in the west part near the Fitchburg line. He married 28 Sept., 1727, Sarah, born 8 Nov., 1707, daughter of John³ jr. (John² Thomas¹) and Sarah (Fiske) Hastings of Watertown and Lunenburg. He was a farmer and had nine children, all born in Lunenburg. He was living in Lunenburg in 1776, when a child of his son Jonathan died at the home of its grandfather Samuel. With his wife he afterward went to Westmoreland, N. H., and died there in Oct., 1793. His wife was living in the winter of 1796-7, when the wife of his son Thaddeus and his grandson Right (Dr. Right of Lancaster) visited her at the home of her youngest daughter, Anna, wife of Lieut. Joseph Boynton of Westmoreland.

Two sons Thaddeus and Jonathan married and had children. Both were in the Revolution, Thaddeus from 19 April, 1775, eleven days; also, from 5 May, 1777, 62 1-2 days; Jonathan from 19 Apr., 1775 until June, 1780.

Annie E. Cummings, Dorchester, Mass.

THE BI-CENTENNIAL CHORUS IN 1850.

Copied from a paper in the possession of John H. Towne.

By request of the committee for the management of the Centennial Celebration, the choristers of the two societies, F. Stiles, and S. S. McKenzie, were requested to call a meeting of the singers of Topsfield to organize a choir and choose a leader. They accordingly called a meeting on the evening of the fifth of July and organized by choosing F. Stiles, chairman, S. S. McKenzie, secretary, and W. R. Hubbard, leader. Voted to adjourn until July 12th. At the adjournment, voted to choose a committee of five to give invitations, collect singing books, etc.

Zaccheus Gould, Frederick Stiles, Isaiah M. Small, Samuel S. McKenzie and R. Dennis Perkins, were chosen a committee. Voted to adjourn until July 27th.

July 27th, at the adjournment, after singing an hour, voted to adjourn until August 3rd. In all nine meetings were held for preparation, the last being upon the morning of the 29th of August.

CHORUS.

LADIES: Susan Adams, Elizabeth Gould, Adaline Gould, Augusta Story, Caroline Gallop, Mary E. Gould, Harriet A. Gould and Sarah Hood.

GENTLEMEN: William R. Hubbard, T. K. Leach, W. Gould, T. Hood, sen., E. Averill, A. S. Peabody, Wm. P. Gallop, Oren F. Stone, Eleazer Gould, D. Gallop, Smith Whitmore, D. Perkins, Isaiah M. Small, T. A. Gould, Zaccheus Gould, N. Averill, M. Horne and S. Perkins.

PLAYERS: B. F. Perkins, Violin, E. Foster, Violin, V. D. Boardman, Clarionet, S. S. McKenzie, T., F. Stiles, Bass-Viol, A. Perkins, Double-Bass-Viol.

ABSTRACTS FROM SUFFOLK DEEDS, RELATING
TO EARLY SETTLERS IN TOPSFIELD.

James Parker of Strawberry Bank sold to Zaccheus Gould of Ipswich, a dwelling house and land in Weymouth, 26, 9^{mo} 1644. Liber I, leaf 56.

Zaccheus Gould of Ipswich, sold to Capt. William Perkins a dwelling house and land in Weymouth, 2 April 1645. Liber I. leaf 58.

"John Whittingham of Ipswich granted vnto Bryom Pendleton his ffer [] at Ipswich containeing six hundd Acres of meddow & vpland wth all the houseinge & appurtenances: the meddow being bounded wth m^r Bradstreetes ground east, a piece of m^r Paines meddow west, Wenham meddow & an island of vpland south, the vpland butting on m^r Bradstreetes east, W^m Paines northeast, the Comon northwest & m^r W^m Paines land, & also on the south wth W^m Paines land. & This was by an absolute deed dated, 9 (7) 1648.

John Whittingham & a seale"

Liber I. leaf 99.

Samuel Cutler of Topsfield, son of John and Mary Cutler of Hingham, is appointed attorney, and also deeds estate of father, deceased, Feb. 14, 1671.

Liber VII. leaf 313.

CELEBRATION AT TOPSFIELD.

JULY 4, 1826.

[From the Salem Register, July 13, 1826.]

The fiftieth anniversary of our Independence was celebrated in Topsfield on the 4th inst. in a very handsome manner. The performances commenced by ringing the bell and firing a salute of twenty-four guns at sunrise. At nine o'clock that fine and well-disciplined company of militia, commanded by Capt. Cornelius B. Bradstreet, formed a line on the Common—at ten o'clock, the company of Washington Hussars, commanded by Capt. John Rea, jr., formed a line at the hotel, from whence they moved to the Common to meet Capt. B.'s company, where they went through a variety of manœuvres in a manner which did honour to the companies. They then proceeded to the hotel, where the Hussars received an elegant standard, procured by the ladies of Rowley and Topsfield, and presented by Miss Mary Towne, daughter of Jacob Towne, Esq., with the following handsome and very appropriate

ADDRESS.

Sir—Through the politeness of friends I am made the bearer to you, and through you to the very respectable company to which you are attached, of a Standard, as a token of the interest which the ladies of Rowley and Topsfield feel in your respectability and usefulness as soldiers and as Washington Hussars. Your name alone ought at all times to awaken in your breasts the most patriotic and virtuous feelings. When we add to this the proud eminence to which our country has arisen, perhaps the consequence of having received at the commencement a right direction; when we consider the very important aid which the militia have afforded in times of danger from foreign and domestic foes, and especially the militia of New-England, and the unsullied character which they continue to support, you must feel a weight of responsibility that will ever guard against all treasonable or other designs unworthy soldiers. Man is by nature our protector, doubly so is the soldier. Not only do our lives and liberty require his protection, but that which we hold dearer than either, our reputation, not unfrequently made the wanton sport of the enemies of virtue. In looking to you for the defence of our lives and liberty, we hope the shafts of calumny and slander will likewise be ward off with boldness, and the calumniator receive the just contempt of a soldier. His honour requires

that he should at all times stand up in our defence against the vile attempts of the traducer; and we trust that the interest we have taken in this company will guarantee to us this protection. If the same unanimity, so creditable to soldiers, that has uniformly prevailed in your corps, should be directed to the cause of virtue and innocence, it cannot fail of exciting a favorable influence on society. Let this banner then ever remind you of your duty to our country, of your duty in the cause of virtue and innocence, and of your duty to us. Let a dishonorable action never tarnish the bright escutcheon of a Washington Hussar.

To which Cornet Williams made the following appropriate reply:

Miss—As I have the honour to receive this elegant and emblematical Standard, allow me, in behalf of the officers and soldiers of the Washington Hussars, to express their warmest acknowledgements to you and other ladies, through whose kind liberality it has been procured. The great and venerable name we have assumed for our corps should indeed awaken in our bosoms sentiments of elevated patriotism and the most profound gratitude. The bright example and splendid achievements of Washington are the strongest incentives to virtuous actions and zeal in the public service; for his name is associated with personal excellence, civil freedom, and national glory. Your flattering testimony to the worth of our Militia accords not less with the opinions of the wisest patriots than with the whole history of our country. As it is our duty as soldiers to defend our homes and fire sides against the intrusions of foreign or domestic foes, so gratitude and honour sacredly bind us to extend the shield of protection over those whose approbation is a soldier's best reward, and without whose virtuous smiles neither firesides nor country were worth defending. While this standard, as it is unfurled, will remind us of our obligation to defend it with our lives; so also it will at the same time remind us of that beauty, and virtue, and loveliness, which give to life its chief value.

Should war again disturb our peaceful shore,
Grant us thy smiles, ye Fair, we ask no more,
The Washington Hussars shall take the field:
By *thee* encouraged, sure no heart can yield.
Should ruthless foes invade our happy land,
True to our country we will ever stand,
This sacred banner, while we draw a breath,
Shall "wave in victory, or fall in death."

A procession was then formed, under the direction of Col. Porter Bradstreet, chief officer of the day, escorted by the company of Infantry commanded by Capt. Cornelius B. Bradstreet, and the Washington Hussars, commanded by Capt. John Rea, jr. and moved to the Meeting House in the following order.

ESCORT.

Committee of Arrangements.

Orator of the Day and Reader of Declaration of Independence.

Ladies who procured the Standard for the Washington Hussars.
Selectmen.

School Committees.

Overseers of the Poor.

Assessors and other Town Officers.

Civil Officers of the County of Essex.

Military Officers.

Soldiers of the Revolutionary Army.

Gentlemen of distinction in the vicinity—and Citizens in General.

At about one o'clock the procession reached the meeting-house, where the services commenced with an Ode on Science; Prayer; Declaration of Independence was then read; the one hundred and forty-fifth Psalm, 1st part, C. M. was then sung; the Oration was delivered by the Rev. Ebenezer Hubbard; "Triumph" by Mr. Kimball, was then sung; Benediction.*

The performances throughout were pleasing, and excited a great degree of interest and gratification. The music was appropriate and executed in style. It is impossible to do justice to the oration of Mr. Hubbard. It was eloquent, patriotic, and sentimental. It touched the feelings of all his audience, and reflected honor on the Orator. But we regret to state that it cannot be obtained for the press. Prior to leaving the meeting-house, a unanimous vote of thanks was given to the Orator of the day.

On leaving the meeting-house a procession was again formed, and escorted to the Hotel, where they partook of a sumptuous dinner, provided by Mr. Cummins, at which a number of patriotic and republican toasts were given, which we are sorry to say were not preserved. The Companies again formed their lines and made several fires, and went through a variety of manœuvres. One circumstance respecting the Washington Hussars is worthy of notice—every officer that has commanded this ancient and honorable company since the Revolutionary War is now living.

*Rev. Mr. Dennis was absent from town.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.

FOR THE YEAR 1900.

BIRTHS.

1900.

- | | | |
|-------|-----|--|
| Feb. | 19. | Winnie Althea, dau. of Archer and Elizabeth H. (Merry) Andrews. |
| Feb. | 21. | Mary Carney, dau. of Thomas F., and Mary (Mullany) Farrell. |
| May | 28. | Mary Elizabeth, dau. of George and Mary Colman (Lunt) Little. |
| June | 24. | Fanny Stafford, dau. of Herbert and Alice Belle (Johnson) Lewis. |
| July | 1. | Ruth Margaret, dau. of Ephraim P., and Marguerite (Copeland) Ferguson. |
| July | 22. | Dorothy, dau. of Rev. Herbert James and Lillian (Wheeler) Wyckoff. |
| July | 23. | James Orrington Purinton, son of Frank D., and Mary C. (Nelson) Jenkins. |
| Aug. | 9. | Ruth Isabel, dau. of Charles Hobart and Mary Elizabeth (Collins) Lake. |
| Aug. | 18. | Mildred Ray, dau. of Edward Henry and Mary Ardelle (Ray) Garrett. |
| Sept. | 1. | Ruthetta Gibson, dau. of Arthur F., and Etta (Pike) Perkins. |
| Nov. | 2. | Barbara, dau. of Edward Benjamin and Bessie Colket (Clerk) Woodbury. |
| Dec. | 16. | Helen, dau. of Ormond C., and Elizabeth (Carnes) Taylor. |
| Dec. | 28. | Delilia May, dau. of Albert H., and Josie (Tinkham) Davison. |

MARRIAGES.

1900.

- | | | |
|------|-----|--|
| Feb. | 7. | { Paul Revere Kimball, (Topsfield), son of William B. and Mary S., (Stone) Kimball.
Genie Curtis Fuller, (Topsfield), dau. of Daniel and Francelia (Curtis) Fuller. |
| Feb. | 22. | { Cyrus Elmer Killam, (Boxford), son of George B., and Elizabeth (Davis) Killam.
Ethel Annie Garrett, (Topsfield), dau. of William and Sarah H., (Lake) Garrett. |
| Mar. | 21. | { Edward Henry Garrett, (Topsfield), son of William and Sarah H., (Lake) Garrett.
Mary Ardella Ray, (Topsfield), dau. of John W., and Hattie S., (Betchelder) Ray. |

MARRIAGES (Continued.)

1900.		
April	1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fred Williams, (Topsfield), son of J. C., and Mary (Harding) Williams. Cora Kneeland, (Topsfield), dau. of Alonzo P., and Eliza A., (Welch) Kneeland.
May	17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merritt Lynly Hobson, (Topsfield), son of Benjamin Proctor and Lowera Leonora (Strangman) Hobson. Ida Brigita Gustafa Nelson, (Topsfield), dau. of Nels and Johanna (Calson) Pearson.
May	17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hermon L. Hobson, (Topsfield), son of Benjamin Proctor and Lowera Leonora (Strangman) Hobson. Emma M. Shaw, (Topsfield), dau. of Jesse and Jane B. (Durkee) Shaw.
June	4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louis F. Fowler, (Topsfield), son of James H., and Sarah L. (Smith) Fowler. Mary E. Geary, (Boston), dau. of William and Margaret (Murphy) Geary.
June	27.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galen Benjamin Howe, (Middleton), son of Benjamin and Ann Jane (Richardson) Howe. Ruth Cheever Conant, (Topsfield), dau. of Benjamin and Margaret (Starrett) Conant.
Sept.	5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harland Stephen Pierce (Topsfield), son of Stephen M., and Abbie L., (Perkins) Pierce. Maud Fuller, (Topsfield), dau. of ——— and Margarette (Fuller) Hubbard.
Dec.	12.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arthur F. Swan (Boston), son of Edgar C., and Nellie F., (Holt) Swan. Jeanette Mann Shepherd, (Topsfield), dau. of Alexander W., and Isabella (Sellers), Shepherd.

DEATHS.

1900.		
Jan.	11.	Lucinda W., widow of John Todd and dau. of Humphrey and Abigail (Peabody) Wildes, aged 90 y. 9 m. 27 d.
Mar.	9.	Elizabeth D., widow of Aaron P. Kneeland and dau. of Samuel Phillips, aged 83 y. 3 m. 24 d.
Mar.	26.	Cyrus Austin Averill, son of Cyrus and Lavinia (Dickinson) Averill, aged 65 y. 7 m. 16 d.
Apr.	1.	Francis Mulligan, son of Barnard and Mary (McDermott) Mulligan, aged 16 y.
Apr.	7.	Sarah Kimball, wife of Isaac M. Woodbury and dau. of Thomas K., and Louisa (Morgan) Leach, aged 55 y. 12 d.
Apr.	20.	Rachel, widow of Samuel Clifford and dau. of Azariah and Sarah (Towne) Averill, aged 84 y. 4 d.
May	26.	George Munroe Patten, son of William and Betsey (Danforth)

1900.

DEATHS (Continued.)

- June 6. Thorndike Deland Hodges, son of John and Mary Osgood (Deland) Hodges, aged 63 y. 5 m. 18 d.
- July 27. George West Dodge, son of Pyam and ——— (Langdon) Dodge, aged 83 y. 7 m. 17 d.
- Aug. 16. Gustavus Merrill, son of Wingate and Hannah (Chapman) Merrill, aged 71 y. 5 m. 26 d.
- Aug. 28. Cyrus Varney, son of Amasa and Comfort (Hill) Varney, aged 79 y. 26 d.
- Sept. 9. Etta May, wife of Arthur W. Perkins and dau. of Daniel P. Pike, aged 25 y. 11 m. 26 d.
- Sept. 10. Mary Carney, dau. of Thomas P. and Mary (Mullany) Farrell, aged 6 m. 20 d.
- Sept. 20. George F. Pevear, son of Meschach and Eliza A. (Sayward) Pevear, aged 68 y. 4 m. 19 d.
- Oct. 11. Edna E., dau. of Abram and Ellen (Connors) Welch, aged 18 y. 1 m. 8 d.
- Oct. 16. Wells S. Conant, son of John and Ruth (Stanley) Conant, aged 67 y. 3 m.
- Dec. 3. Eliza Amanda, widow of Moses Poore Stanwood and dau. of William and Mary (Greenleaf) Carr, aged 78 y. 11 m. 15 d.
- Dec. 19. Sarah H., wife of Richard Ward and dau. of John R., and Sarah E., (Jeph)s Patten, aged 60 y. 4 m. 15 d.
- Dec. 30. Maria Jane, widow of James R. Hobbs and dau. of Cyrus and Lavinia (Dickinson) Averill, aged 68 y. 2 m. 19 d.

Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

1900.

- Feb. 7. S. Webster Perkins, died at Hamilton, Mass., aged 65 y. 3 m. 16 d.
- Feb. 11. Alpheus A. Lake, (ashes of), died at Boston, Mass.
- Feb. 13. Jane C., widow of Rev. Anson McCloud, died at Boston, Mass., aged 83 y. 3 m. 21 d.
- Feb. 22. Sophia A. Bixby, died at Sharon, Mass., aged 75 y. 1 m.
- Feb. 26. Mary Anne Gould, died at Hamilton, Mass., aged 95 y. 2 m. 21 d.
- Mar. 2. Phebe W. (Perkins) Sleeper, died at Newburyport, Mass., aged 77 y. 4 m. 9 d.
- Mar. 25. Mary Anna Dix Hart, died at Lynn, Mass., aged 80 y.
- Apr. 15. Virginia L. Conant, died at Danvers, Mass., aged 37 y. 8 m. 4 d.
- May 7. Clara H. Peabody, (ashes of), died at Canaan, N. H., aged 23 y.
- July 27. Henry Halsey Dodge, died at Beverly, Mass., aged 82 y. 9 m. 27 d.
- Nov. 7. Charles H. Wood, died at Danvers, Mass., aged 53 y.
- Nov. 8. Caroline H. Towne, died at Salem, Mass., aged 67 y.
- Nov. 20. David G. Lake, died at Peabody, Mass., aged 69 y. 3 m.
- Dec. 13. William F. Waitt, died at Boston, Mass., aged 56 y.

BIRTHS.

1900.

- Nov. 5. Lester Chipman, son of John James and Caroline Amelia (Andrews) Castle.

Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

1900.

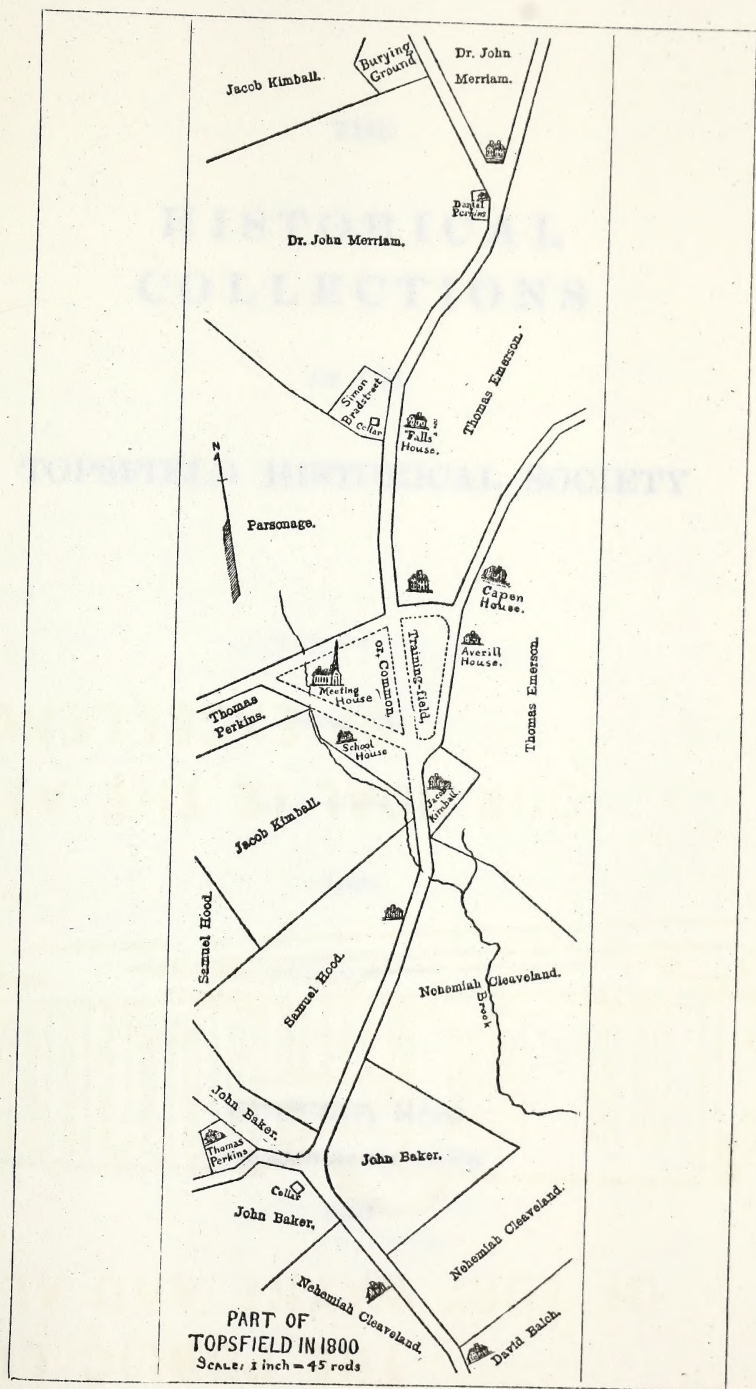
- June 5. Eunice Roberts, died at Georgetown, Mass., aged 76 y. 2 m. 6 d.
 July 27. Amos M. Thompson, died at Saugus, Mass., aged 30 y. 11 m. 4 d.
 Aug. 2. Lillian Fuller, died at Somerville, Mass., aged 4 m. 5 d.
 Aug. 25. James A. Elliot, died at Boxford, Mass., aged 54 y. 2 m. 25 d.
 Sept. 5. Hannah Peabody, died at Haverhill, Mass., aged 92 y. 9 m. 20 d.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN TOPSFIELD IN 1900.

- Jan. 1. Celebration of the 25th anniversary of the organization of Fountain Lodge, No. 170, I. O. O. F.
 April 12. Rev. Herbert J. Wyckoff installed pastor of the Congregationalist Church.
 April 14. Rev. William N. Roberts appointed pastor of the Methodist Church.
 July 19. Barn belonging to Albert W. Stevens struck by lightning and consumed by fire, together with out-buildings and one side of his dwelling house. Loss, \$1350.00.
 Aug. 12. Religious exercises in the Congregationalist Church in connection with the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the town.
 Aug. 16-17. Celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town.
 Aug. 29. Gaius B. Frost elected Principal of the High School.
 Sept. 15. Mass. State Highway Commission appropriates money to construct "The Valley Road."
 Nov. 22. Dr. H. F. Sears, of Boston, buys the Josiah P. Perkins and Dudley Perkins farms.

BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1900.

- A. W. Stevens, new barn and out-buildings, Prospect Street.
 Joseph B. Poor, summer cottage, near Hood's Pond.
 Rev. F. A. Poole, summer cottage, Washington Street.
 T. W. Peirce, alterations, Mansion House, Boston Street.
 C. V. Jackman, remodelling shop into dwelling house, Main Street.
 Otto F. Lake, remodelling front of store.



THE
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VOL. VII

1901

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GEORGE FRANCIS DOW

Editor

THE MERRILL PRESS

Topsfield

MASS.

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Goodland - 40.00 (30 vols)

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PINE GROVE CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS.

1717—1849.

COPIED BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

The burying-ground on Haverhill street, now known as "Pine Grove Cemetery," is the oldest burying-ground in Topsfield. The church was located here as early as 1663 and interments were probably made about the same time and perhaps earlier. Here lie buried Rev. Joseph Capen, Rev. John Emerson and Rev. Asahel Huntington, early ministers of the church in Topsfield; Thomas Perkins, the eminent Salem merchant; Jacob Kimball, the musical composer; the ancestors of Joseph Smith, the Mormon and many soldiers of the Revolution. The oldest stone having an inscription that can be deciphered, is one erected to the memory of Sergeant Ebenezer Averill, who died Dec. 22, 1717.

The cemetery has been enlarged at three different times. It takes its name from a fine grove of pine trees which crowns the elevated ground in the western part of the cemetery.

Mary Ann | wife of Benj. P. Adams, | born May 16, 1813,
| died May 13, 1840. [On-monument.]

Mrs. Dorothy Andrews | Relict of | Mr. Joseph Andrews.
| died Feb. 15, 1813, | Æt. 77.

My flesh shall slumber in the ground,
Till the last trumpets joyful sound,
Then burst the chains with sweet surprise,
And in my Saviour's image rise.

In Memory of | Miss Hepzibah | Andrews, | who died |
Oct. 14, 1838, | Aged 78.

In Memory of | M^r Joseph Andrews | who Departed this
life | Oct^r the 16, 1785; | in the 68th Year | of his age.

Death is the Lot the Tomb the Place,
For all the Sons of Adams Race.

Here Lies Buried | the body of | M^{rs} Dorothy | Averill
wife | of M^r Nathani^l | Averill^{l^{ur}} who | Died | May the 6
1767 | in the 18 year | of her age.

Here Lyes y^e Body | of Sert. Ebenezer | Auerill who | De-
parted this life | December ^e 22 | 1717. Aged 48 | years &
two | months & 4 days.

In Memory of | Mr. Elijah Averell | Son of Lieut. Isaac
Averell | & Mrs. Priscilla his wife | who died | Aug. 4, A. D.
1813. | Æt. 51.

Man dieth and wasteth away;
Yea, man giveth up the ghost,
And where is he.

In Memory of | M^{rs} Hannah Averell | the Widow of |
Cap^t Nathaniel Averell | who Departed this life | June 5th
1785, in ^e 76th | Year of her age.

This monument perpet- | uates the memory of | M^r Isaac
Averell, Jr. A. M. | Son of Lieu^t Isaac & Mrs. | Priscilla
Averell. He was | under a call to settle in the | Christian
ministry in the | South parish in Brookfield. | He died Sept.
20th A. D. 1800. | Æt. 34.

Depart my friends dry up your tears,
Here I must lie till Christ Appears.
Death is a debt that's nature's due,
I've paid the debt & so must you.

In Memory of | Liu^t Luke Averell | Who Departed | This
Life April | The 16^h 1776, | In The 77^h | Year of | His Age.

Sarah, | Relict of | Moses Averell | Afterwards wife of |
Joseph Sawyer | Died May 31, 1841, | Æt. 69.

Affectionately | Inscribed to the memory | of Mrs. Mary
Averell con- | sort of Mr. Elijah Averell, | & Daug^t of Maj.
Joseph Gould | & Mrs. Elisabeth his wife, | who died Sep-
tember 7th | A. D. 1797. Æt. 37.

Ah hapless Mother scarce had thy fond arms
Clasp'd the sweet Babe to thy maternal breast,
Ere deaths sad harbinger spread wide alarms
And called thee smiling to thy peaceful rest.

The Memory of the Just
is Blessed.

In Memory of | Mr. Moses Averill | Son of Lieu. Isaac
and | Mrs. Priscilla Averill | who departed this life | Aug^t
1st 1898, Æt. 28.

For since by man came death,
by man came also the resurrection
of the dead.

My flesh shall dwell in silent rest
And join with its primeval dust,
Till Christ descending from the skies
Shall bid my slumbering dust arise.

Moses Averell | Died | June 3, 1848; | Aged 38 years and
| 8 months.

In Memory of | Cap^t Nathaniel Averell, | who Departed
this | Life Aug^t the 17th | 1781 | in the 81st Year | of his age.

Sarah Averell | wife of | Azariah Averell, | Died Sept. 6,
1842; | Aged 62.

Ebenezer Baker | Son of Cap^t John | & M^{rs} Mary Baker
| who De^parted this | Life April 24, 1776. | in the 6th Year
| of his age.

John | Son of Mr. Thomas | & Mrs. Hannah Baker, | died
Nov. 1, 1814. | Æt 14.

Behold and see as you pass by,
As you are now so once was I,
As I am now so you must be,
Prepare for death & follow me.

In | Memory of | Major John Baker | who died | Nov. 11,
1815, | aged 83. [Revolutionary Soldier.]

In memory of | M^{rs} Mary | Consort of | Major John Baker,
| who died | Dec. 16, 1816, | aged 81.

In Memory of | M^{rs} Sarah Baker | the Widow of | Cap^t
Thomas Baker | who Departed this | Life June 1780; | in
the 68th Year of her age.

The Sweet Memory of Ye Just Shall
Flourish while they Sleep in Dust.

Here Lyes Buried Y^e | Body of Cap^t Thomas | Baker who
Died | March y^e 18th 1717-18 | Aged 81; Years & | 6
Months | & 5 Days.

In Memory of | Cap^t Thomas Baker, | who Departed this
life | Aug^t the 16th, 1777, | in the 67th Year | of his age.

The Sweet Memory of the Just
Shall Flourish When they Sleep in Dust.

Erected | In Memory of | M^{rs} Bettey Balch | the wife of
M^r | David Balch y^e 3^d | who died October | the 14th, 1784,
in | the 22^d year | of her age.

M^r | Cornelius | Balch | 1749.

Here Lyeth the Body | of M^r Cornelius Balch | Who Died
December y^e | 20th 1749 In the 31st | year of his Age.

In Memory of | M^r David Balch | who Departed this | life
April 17th 1787, | in the 73^d year | of his age.

Blessed are the Dead that Die in ye Lord.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

This monument as a | mark of filial respect is | raised to
the remembrance | of David Balch, who | bid adieu to the
delusive | and transitory scenes of | this world the 22 of |
July 1812, Æt. 59.

Whose last dying words were
To the war.

*Non ille pro caris amicis¹
Aut patria timidus perire*

Sweet Jesus was resigned to the
Fathers will,
Indeed so was he who lies here still.

Mrs. | Dolly | Consort of | Mr. Thomas Balch, | died June
22, 1819. | Æt. 51.

Now let our drooping hearts revive,
And all our tears be dry;
Why should those eyes be drown'd in grief
Which view a Saviour nigh.

Elisabeth Dau^r of | M^r Cornelius & | Martha Balch |
Died Septem^r y^e 6th | 1749 in her 3^d | year.

¹ David Balch committed suicide. The Latin inscription aims to convey the idea that he was not afraid to die, either for his dear friends or his country.

In Memory of | the widow | Hannah Balch | who died |
Sept. 14, 1807, | in the 82 year of | her age.

Weep not my friends, dry up your tears
I must lie here till Christ appears.

Humphrey P. | Son of Humphrey & | Hannah P. Balch.
| Born May 28, 1844 | Died May 23, 1847.

[On monument.]

Joseph Son to | Cornelius & | Martha Balch | Died Jan'y
| the 25 17[50] | in his [6]th | year.

Joshua Balch | Died | Nov. 11, 1839, | Æt. 70.

Sarah | wife of David | Balch, | died Mar. 2. | 1845. | Æt.
75ys. & 9 mos.

In | Memory of | Mr. Thomas | Balch, | who died | March
10, 1830, | Æt. 69.

He was greatly beloved in life,
And deeply lamented in death,
A tender husband and a father kind,
A peaceful citizen and faithful friend,
To every christian charity inclined,
Religious worship constant to attend.

Caroline | Elisabeth | daughter of | Joseph W. and | Nan-
cy F. Batchelder | died | July 25, 1832. | Æt. 1 yr. & 6 mo.
Mr. | John Batchelder, | died | Jan. 10, 1819. | Æt. 75.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In Memory of | Mr. | John Batchelder | who died | Sept.
20, 1845, | Aged 77 Yrs. | and 8 Mos.

In Memory of | Mrs. Lydia Batchelder | Consort of | Mr.
John Batchelder | who died | March 2, A. D. 1812. | Æt. 75.

Mrs. Phebe | wife of Mr. | John Batchelder | who died |
Sept. 26, 1839 | Aged 67 Yrs.

Mrs. Sarah | Consort of Capt. | Joseph Batchelder | Died
| Sept. 24. 1842, | Aged 70 Yrs. | 10 Mos. & 10 days.

Two children of Joseph | & Sarah Beckford. | Dolly died
March 7, | 1842, Æt. 3. | Joseph died May 7. | aged 15
days.

Rest sweet babes in gentle slumbers.
Till the resurrection morn.
Then arise & join the numbers
That its triumphs shall adorn.

In Memory of | Benjamin Bixby son | of M^r Benjamin &
| M^{rs} Peggy Bixby, | who died June 3^d, 1795, | Ætat. 17.

Charles H. | Son of | Daniel & Caroline | Bixby, | Born
Feb. 2, 1840, | Died Aug. 23, 1846.

Here Lyes the Body | of Daniel Bixby | who Died, Sep-
tember 22^d | 1775 Aged 56 Years | & 7 months.

Why do we mourn Departing Friends
or shake at Deaths alarms
tis but the Voice that Jesus Sends
To call them to his arms.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Deacon | Daniel Bixby | died | Jan. 5, 1825. | Æt. 74.

Reader prepare, remember death is near;
My time is past, Eternity is here.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

To the memory of | Cap^t Daniel | Bixby, died | June 24,
1836, | Æt. 55.

When the dread summons calls, we must obey;
And break all earthly ties, to sleep with clay;
How sad would be our lot, how drear the grave,
But for that blessed hope our Saviour gave.

Daniel A. | Son of | Daniel & Caroline | Bixby, | Born
May 30, 1843, | Died Aug. 29, 1846.

Here Lyes the Body | of M^{rs} Elisabeth Bixby, | Daughter
of M^r Daniel | & M^{rs} Ruth Bixby, who | Died Septem^r 18th
1776 | Aged 33 years.

The Dead are Only Blest
That in the Lord do Rest.

John Q. Bixby | died | Sept. 21, 1846, | Æt. 17 yrs.

To the memory of | Lucinda | Daughter of | Daniel &
Sally | Bixby, died | June 13, 1820. | Æt. 6 years.

In Memory of | Mrs. Ruth Bixby | Relict of Mr. Daniel
Bixby, | who died Sept. 14, 1808. | Æt. 90.

Why should we tremble to convey
 Their bodies to the tomb,
 There the dear flesh of Jesus lay
 And left a long perfume.
 The Graves of all his Saints he Blest
 And soften'd every bed,
 Where should the dying members rest
 But with the dying head.

In memory of | Mrs. Ruth | wife of | Dea. Daniel Bixby,
 | who died | June 3, 1834; | Æt. 83.

Mrs. Sarah | wife of | Daniel Bixby | Died | Sept. 8, 1846,
 | Æt. 58 yrs.

Her gentle Spirit calm and clear
 With fortitude possessing;
 Made her a mother kind and dear,
 And to her friends a blessing.

William H. Bixby | died | Sept. 15, 1846, | Æt. 20 y'rs.

In Memory of | Cap^t John Bordman | who Departed this
 | Life April the 7th | 1780: | In the 64 Year | of his age.

In Memory of | Mr. Dudley Bradstreet | who | died |
 Sept. 25, 1832, | aged 36 years.

Though your Brother is dead he
 yet speaketh unto you be ye also ready.

In Memory of | Capt. Dudley Bradstreet | who died |
 April 23, 1833, | aged 67 years.

An honest man's the noblest work of God,
 His body lays buried beneath this sod.
 Well done good and faithful servant
 enter into thy rest.

In memory of | Mrs. Elisabeth Bradstreet, | wife of | Mr.
 John Bradstreet, | who departed this life | Nov. 13th 1801, |
 in the 84 year of her age.

the memory of the just
 is Bless'd.

Elizabeth D. | daughter of | Capt. John & | Priscilla Brad-
 street | died | Feb. 22, 1835, | Æt. 11.

In Memory | of Henry Bradstreet | Son of M^r Henry & |
 M^{rs} Abigail Bradstreet | Died March 24, 1774, | in the 4
 year | of his age.

Bleffed are the Dead
that Die in the Lord.

In memory of | Mr. John Bradstreet | Who departed this
life | Nov. 22, 1807: | Æt. 90.

Inscribed in mem | ory of Mr. Moses | Bradstreet, who |
died Oct. 29, A. D. 1801, | Æt. 28. In memory of | Cyntha
Bradstreet | who died Oct. 13, | A. D. 1801. Æt. 2.

"He di'd in Jesus and is blest;
How kind his slumbers are;
From suff'rings and from sins releas'd
And freed from ev'ry snare."

Moses | son of | Mr. William & Mrs. | Fannie Bradstreet
| died | Aug. 25, 1830, | Æt. 3 ys. 4 ms. | & 15 dys.

Moses | Cornelius | son of | Cornelius B. and | Eunice
Bradstreet | died | Sept. 5, 1832 | Æt 2 ys. 4 ms. | & 17
days.

Mr. | Nath. Bradstreet | son of Mr. Samuel & | Mrs. Matta
Bradstreet, | died Nov. 3, 1820, | Æt. 25.

His affectionate disposition, engaging
manners, & agreeable deportment
gained the love & esteem of all who knew
him. And we hope by the grace of
God he has made a happy
entrance on a blessed
immortality.

In Memory of | Mrs. Polly Bradstreet, | Consort of | Capt.
Dudley Bradstreet. | Who departed this life March 9, | 1815;
Æt. 44.

Oh sad the thought that mould so fine and sweet
Should serve the reptile worm for meat.
But faith in God forbids distrust,
For he will raise the sleeping dust
New cloath'd afresh without decay
To reign with Christ in endless day.

Col. Porter Bradstreet | Born Dec 1, 1789, | Died June 25,
1849.

"Blessed are they that mourn for they
shall be comforted."

This monument is | irected to perpetuate | the memory
of | Mrs. Ruth Bradstreet. | Relict of Mr. Samuel | Brad-
street who died | July 25th 1777 | Æt. 44.

"Death is a debt that's nature's due
I've paid the debt & so must you."

Miss | Ruth | daughter of Mr. Samuel & | Mrs. Matta
Bradstreet, | died April 9, 1817 | Æt. 25.

Though thy presence so endearing,
We thy absence now deplore;
At the Saviour's bright appearing,
We may meet to part no more.

This monument is | Erected to perpetuate | the memory
of | Mr. Samuel Bradstreet, | who died | July 7th 1777. | Æt.
49.

My weeping friends, dry up your tears
I must lie here till Christ appears.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Oliver Buttman | (Son of Mr. John & Mrs. Hannah | Butt-
man,) who died June 16th | 1793, | in the 17th Year | of his
Age.

Death thou hast conquer'd me,
I by thy dart am slain
But Christ has conquer'd thee
And I shall rise again.

¹Here Lyes Buried | the Body of the | Reuerend Mr.
Joseph | Capen a Faithfull Min | ister of Christ who | Liued
an Ordained | Pastor of $\frac{1}{2}$ Church | in Topsfield 42 years |
& Departed this Life $\frac{1}{2}$ | Last Day of June, 1725 | Aged 66
years.

Dear Mr Capen, that reuered man
Who did the faith of Christ maintain
A learned man & Godly too
None will denie this who him
knew.

Here Lies buried the | Body of Ma^d Priscila y^e | wife of
y^e Rev^r Joseph | Capen who died Oct^r | 12th 1743, in the 86th
| year of her age.

Martha L. | daughter of | Paul & Cynthia | Chaplin | Died
| Dec. 11, 1839. | Æt. 1 year.

Nehemiah | Cleaveland, | Born Aug. 26, 1760, | Died Feb.
26, 1837. | Experience | Cleaveland, | Born Dec. 26, 1764 |
Died Jan. 21, 1845.

¹ This stone is said to be upon the exact spot where the pulpit in the church formerly stood, and from which "Parson Capen" expounded the Word.

Thanks be to God who
giveth us the victory
through our Lord
Jesus Christ.

[On monument.]

Nehemiah | A child of 3 years. | Experience | & Ebenezer
| Infant children. | Ellen Maria, | Aged 9 months & Lucy
Cleaveland | Died June 19, 1846 | Aged 13 years, | Daughters
of | W. N. & H. Cleaveland. | Lucy | daughter of | Nehemi-
ah Cleaveland, | Born March 12, 1800, | Died Dec. 5, 1838.

[On monument.]

Mercea Clinton | Daughter of | David & Mary P. | Clarke,
| Died Mar. 17, 1847, | Æt. 3 yrs. 7 mos. | & 9 days.

She hath left a world which grief invades,
Where every form of beauty fades,
She hath gone where ties are never riven,
Her home is on the shores of Heaven.

Mr. | Aaron Conant, | was born | in Ipswich Nov. 25,
1752, | and died | Jan. 14, 1816.

It must be so—Our father Adam's fall,
And disobedience brought this lot on all,
All die in him—But hopeless should we be,
Blest Revelation were it not for thee.
Hail glorious Gospel heavenly light whereby
We live with comfort and with comfort die,
And view beyond this gloomy scene, the tomb,
A life of endless happiness to come.

In memory of | Abraham K. Conant | their son [Nath'l
& Elizabeth K. Conant.] | who died at | Elmina Africa |
June 7, 1844 | aged 23 yrs. 5 mos. [On monument.]

Mrs. | Ann Maria | Wife of | John Conant, | Died | Oct.
9, 1844, | Aged 43.

Sacred | To the Memory of | Mr. Bartholomew Conant |
who died | Sept. 17, 1839: | Aged 66.

"Blessed are the dead
who die in the Lord."

Mrs. | Eunice | relict of | Mr. Aaron Conant, | died Jan.
19, 1823, | Æt. 68.

My weeping friends dry up your tears
I must lie here till Christ appears.

In | Memory of | Mr. Joshua Conant | Son of Mr. Lot and
| Mrs. Eunice Conant, | who departed this life | July 12th
1795, | in the 16th year of | his age.

Erected | In Memory of | Mrs. Anna Cummings | Relict
of the late | Rev. Joseph Cummings. | After a life embittered
by | many distressing vicissitudes | she died July 23^d 1792,
Æt. 39.¹

No more unhappy now; in calm repose
She sleeps unmindful of her toils & woes,
Death (friend of the distress'd) hath sealed her eyes
Till the last trumpet calls her to the skies.

Mr. | Cyrus Cummings | died April 26, 1827. | Æt. 45.

In memory of | Mr. Samuel Cummings | Son of the Rev.
Joseph | and Mrs. Anna Cum- | mings who departed | this
Life June 22, 1802 | in the 18th year of | his age.

In Memory of | Mrs. Mehitabel Dexter | who died | Sept.
1, 1801, | Aged 80 years.

Grim Death has turned me into dust;
But, I shall rise from it, I trust;
And, after sleeping Time away
Wake to enjoy an endless day.

Erected | In Memory of Doct. | Richard Dexter; who
after | a course of endearing service^s | of painful sufferings-
support | ed by the hope which | christianity inspires;
cheerfully | departed this Life. Nov. 25th | 1783. Æt. 71.

Since Death's our certain lot, be life improved
In deeds of goodness; and the full pursuit
Of that which will not fail; a part in Christ,
The hope and earnest of eternal bliss.

Mr. | Daniel Dodge | died March 13, 1807. | Æt. 56.

In Memory of | M^{rs} Hannah Dodge | wife of | Deacⁿ Solo-
mon Dodge, | who departed this life | Oct^r 7th 1788. In the
| 75th year of her age.

Happy exchange to part with all below
For worlds of bliss where joys unceasing
flow.

Mr. Jonathan Dodge, | Died Oct. 20, 1827, | Aged 57
years.

¹ See Topsfield Historical Collections, Vol. V, p. 25.

Deacon | Solomon Dodge | died Jan. 16, 1812. | Æt. 91.
[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In Memory of | M^r Nathaniel Dorman | who departed this
| life Oct^r the 13th 1776; | in the 36th year | of his age.

Naked as from the Earth we came
And Crept to life at first,
We to the Earth Return again
And Mingle with our Dust.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Esther Dwinell | wife of | John Dwinell, | Died October
31, | 1847. | Æt. 101 yrs. & 8 mos.

"For all flesh is grass, and all the
glory of man as the flower of the grass;
The grass withereth and the flower thereof
falleth away."

In Memory of | M^r Jacob Dwinell | who Departed this |
Life Sep^r 9 16th | 1784 | in the 70th year | of his age

Mr. | John Dwinell, | died July 17, 1818. | Æt. 71.

The time draws nigh, when from the clouds
Christ shall with shouts descend;
And the last trumpets awful voice
The heavens and earth shall rend.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Mrs. | Kezia Dwinell | Relict of | Mr. Jacob Dwinell, |
died Dec. 29, 1798. | Æt. 80.

Mrs. | Sally Dwinell | Consort of | Mr. John Dwinell Jun^r
| and daughter of Mr. David | Perkins, died Nov. 28, | 1813.
Æt. 25, a few | hours after the birth | of a still born Infant.

Caroline A. | wife of | Thomas Emerson | and daughter of
| S. & M. Bradstreet, | born May 13, 1811, | died April 30,
1831.

Rest! daughter till thy Savior calls.

Erected in Memory of | M^{rs} Elisabeth Emerson. | Relict
of the late Rev^d | John Emerson | who died April 1st 1790 |
In the 82^d year of her | Age.

With pleasure she resigned her mortal breath,
And fell a willing sacrifice to death.
O welcome stroke that gave her liberty,
Welcome as to the slave a jubilee.

Harriet Josephine Emerson | wife of | Charles H. Holmes,
| 1813-1849. [On monument.]

Under neath are Interred | the Remains of the Rev. | M^r
John Emerson | late Pastor of the | Church of Christ in |
Topsfield, who Departed | this life July ^e 11^h 1774. | aged 67
years 4 mon 14 ds | Having Served God | Faithfully in the
| Gospel of His Son | upwards of 45 years.

The sweet remembrance
of the Just shall
flourish when he
sleeps in dust.

In this cemetery | are interred the remains of the | Rev.
John Emerson | Late pastor of the church of Christ | In
Topsfield who departed this life | July 11, 1774, aged 67 y^{rs}
4 mo's | and 14 days. | Having served God faithfully in the
| gospel of his son upwards of | 45 years.

The sweet remembrance of the just
Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust.

Elizabeth Pratt Emerson, | died April 1, 1790 | in the 82
year of her age. [Emerson monument.]

Sacred | To the memory of | M^r Joseph Emerson | Ob^t
May 28, 1826. | Æt. 50.

In memory of | Mrs. Lydia Emerson, | Relict of | Mr.
Thomas Emerson | who died | Feb. 5, 1825; | aged 84
years.

In memory of | Mr. Thomas Emerson | who died | May
9, 1813; | aged 78 years.

Lieutenant Thomas Emerson, | Born Jan. 8, 1735 | Died
May 9, 1813. | Lydia Porter Emerson, | Died Feb. 5, 1825,
| aged 84. | Billy Emerson | Born Aug. 1 1765 | Died Oct.
29, 1835. | Ruth Bradstreet Emerson, | Born Mar. 8, 1766 |
Died Oct. 22, 1842. [On monument.]

In Memory of | Mrs. Lydia Fisk, | wife of | Mr. Nathaniel
Fisk, | who died April 25, 1809, | in the 65 year of her age.

The Saints though buried in the dust
Shall rise again among the Just.
Surviving friends who drop a tear,
Remember your own death is near.

Mr. | Nathaniel Fisk, | died April 9, 1815, | Æt. 73.

Free'd from disease, no more I sigh,
My spirit dwells with God on high.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

This monument is erected | to perpetuate the memory |
of Mr. Nathaniel Foster | who died Aug. 23^d 1800, | in the
37 year of his age.

If prosperous day or smiling friends
Or vigorous health thy hope extend
Then learn of me a solemn truth
These all were mine in chearful youth
But oh from death they could not save
And all are useless in the grave
A holy life gives bliss divine.
Fear God and endless joys are thine.

Ruth Eliza Bradstreet | Daughter of | John & Ruth B.
Foster | of Salem, | Born Oct. 15, 1823; | Died Dec. 18,
1824.

Mrs. | Lucy Friend | died | Sept. 21, 1819, | Æt. 46.

Ann Gallup | Died | June 17, 1848, | Æt. 40 yrs.

[On monument.]

Andrew David | Son of Mr. Andrew | & Mrs. Mary P.
Gould, | died | Jan. 27, 1830, | Æt. 16 days.

Happy infant early bless'd
Rest in peaceful slumber, rest;
Early rescu'd from the cares
Which increase with growing years.

Andrew Gould | Died | Jan. 24, 1844 | Aged 67.

Angelina H. | daugh^t of Joseph | & Ruth Gould, | died |
Feb. 11, 1832, | Æt. 13.

Mrs. | Anna | Consort of | Mr Zacheus Gould, | died
March 30, 1819, | Æt. 60.

Lord I commit my soul to thee,
Accept the sacred trust,
Receive this better part of me
And guard my sleeping dust.

Sacred | To the Memory of | Mrs. Elizabeth Gould |
widow of | Major Joseph Gould | who died | March 5, 1825,
| aged 94 years | & 6 months.

Blessed are the dead which die in the
Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit
that they may rest from their labours, and
their works do follow them.

Elizabeth, | Daughter of | Dea. John & Esther | Gould,
| Born May 6, 1756, | Died June 11, 1843.

Unto him that loved us and washed us,
To him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

Erected in memory of | Mrs. Ester Gould, who | died
Dec^m. 20th 1788; | Æt 72. | She was the widow of | Dea^e
John Gould, who | died at Watertown of | the small pox,
June 21, | 1778, | Æt. 69.

"Hence Christ arose ascended high,
And shew'd their feet the way
Up to the Lord their flesh shall fly
At the great rising day."

Miss | Eunice | daughter of | Mr. Zacheus & | Mrs. Anna
Gould, | died Dec. 1, 1821, | Æt. 20.

Here lies | buried the body of | Deacon | Daniel Gould |
who died Dec. 11, 1766 | in the 68 year | of his age.

(Just
The sweet remembrance of the
Shall flourish when they sleep
(in dust.

Humphrey | Son of Zacheus & | Anna Gould | died May
30, 1795 | aged 2 years 6 m^o.

Happy for thee so soon so well
To 'scape the woes which life annoy
To part with few sad tales to tell
With no sad grief to black thy joy.

Dea | John Gould | died | Jan. 11, 1820, | Æ. 70. | Ruth
| his wife | died Jan. 9, 1838, | Æ. 84.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Here Lies Buried | the Body of | Cap^t Joseph Gould |
who died April | the 4th A. D. | 1753 and in | the 76th year
| of his age.

This | Monument | perpetuates | the grateful remem-
brance of | Mj^r Joseph Gould, | who was many years Deacon
| in the Church of Christ in this place, | who after a life of
exemplary piety | died June 9, 1803, | Æt. 77.

His soul dismiss'd from cumbrous clay,
 Expediates in eternal day,
 And with the great Jehovah dwells,
 And wonders vast and new beholds.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Mr. | Joseph Gould | died | Jan. 29, 1834. | Æt. 60.

Lucy P. | died Sept. 27, 1834 | aged 17 mo's. | Horace
 W. | died Sept. 17, 1848, | aged 2 mo's. | Children of | An-
 drew & Mary P. | Gould.

Erected In Memory of | M^{rs} Mary Gould, wife of | Daniel
 Gould, A.M., | who departed this | Life Oct^r. 1st, 1785; | in
 the 35th Year | of her age.

I Yet do Speak, tho I am Dead,
 A Sovereign God made this my Bed;
 And what I have to Say to thee
 Prepare for Death & follow me.

Molly Gould | Dau^r of M^r Danie^l | Gould, A.M. and | M^{rs}
 Mary his Wife | who Died Dec^r 4th | 1785; | Aged 2 months
 | And 6 days.

Here Lies Buried | the Body of | M^{rs} Priscilla | widow of
 Cap^t | Joseph Gould | who died Apr. | the 11th 1753 in | the
 66 year | of her age.

Erected in memory | of M^{rs} Rebekah Gould, wife | of M^r
 Zaccheus Gould, who | departed this life May 30th | 1792,
 in the 70th year of her age.

Hail happy Saint! now past the vale of death,
 And in thy Sav'ours arms resign'd thy breath,
 Now thou art free from sin, disease & pain,
 Thy virtues rare; thy life without a stain;
 The faithful wife; to children tender, kind;
 To friendly acts of charity inclin'd;
 A friend to all. Then rise to realms of light;
 Enjoy thy labour, and be cloth'd in white.
 Go & adore before Christs smiling face,
 And sing the glories of redeeming grace.

Mrs. | Ruth | wife of | Mr. Joseph Gould | died | April
 10, 1820 | Æt. 45.

Erected | In Memory of | Mr. Zacheus Gould who | de-
 parted this Life Jan 2^d 1793 | in the 76th year of his age.

Alas! & is the grave our certain home?
 Yes, 'tis the house where all the living come.
 Death no distinction knows; the fool the wise,
 Alike in gloomy death must close their eyes.
 But the chill slumbers of the saints are sweet,
 For they shall rise to bliss & joy complete,
 On earth their virtues shine they gain the prize
 Sleep then dear saint till Christ shall bid you rise,
 And call you to the happy realms above;
 T' enjoy your labour & redeeming love.

Mr. | Zacheus Gould | died | Feb. 13, 1823. | Æt. 79.

Receive O grave, my feeble clay,
 Calmly in thy embrace to rest;
 Safe shall my spirit wing its way,
 To hail the mansions of the blest.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Mrs. Mary Hobbs | Consort of | Mr. Benjamin Hobbs, |
 died Sept. 27th 1804. | Æt. 53.

Mortals how few among your race,
 Have given this thought its weight,
 That on this flying moment hangs
 Your everlasting state.

In Memory of | Mrs. Sarah Hobbs, | wife of | David
 Hobbs, Jr. | Who died Oct. 3, 1824. | Æt. 47.

The tender wife and mother dear,
 The much beloved friend, lies here
 When Christ returns to call her forth
 The rising day will show her worth.

Erected in Memory of M^{rs} | Anne Hood, wife of M^r John
 Hood | Jun^r (& 3^d daug^r of M^r Jacob & M^{rs} | Priscilla Kim-
 ball,) who died Sep^t | 12th 1789. Aged 24. | Also Jacob
 Hood their son born March | 10th 1788 & died April 10th 1789.

Short was their seperation: soon rejoined
 In the dark grave to native dust consigned,
 They sleep, till death his human prey restore,
 And earth & skies & time shall be no more.

Edward Harrison | Son of John G. & | Sarah B. Hood |
 Died | Oct. 14, 1836, | Aged 2 years.

Rest lovely son beneath the clod,
 Until thou rise to meet thy God.

Elisha Hood | Son of | Samuel & | Lydia Hood | Born |
 Dec. 13, 1796 | Died | Jan. 15, 1830.

Alas! & is the grave our certain home?
 Yes, 'tis the home, where all the living come.
 Death no distinction knows; the dead are wise,
 Alas! in gloomy death must close their eyes.
 But the chill slumbers of the saints are sweet,
 For they shall rise to bliss & joy complete.
 On earth their virtues shine they gain the prize,
 Soon then they wait till Christ shall bid you rise,
 And call you to the happy realms above,
 To enjoy your labour & redemptive love.

Mr. Zachariah Gould | died | Feb. 13, 1823. | Aged 72.

Receptive O grave, my body lay,
 Calmly in thy embrace to rest,
 Safe shall my spirit wait its way,
 To hail the morning of the best.

[Revolutionary Soldier]

Mrs. Mary Hobbs | Consort of | Mr. Benjamin Hobbs |

died Sept. 27th 1801 | Aged 23

How often how few among you rest,
 Have given this thought its weight,
 That on this dying moment hangs
 Your everlasting state.

In Memory of | Mrs. Sarah Hobbs | wife of | David

Hobbs, Jr. | Who died Oct. 3, 1822 | Aged 47.

The tender wife and mother dear,
 The much beloved friend, has left
 When Christ returns to call her forth,
 The shining day will show her worth.

Erected in Memory of M^{rs}. Anne Hood, wife of M^r. John

Hood | Jun. (2^d dau. of M^r. Jacob & M^{rs}. Rachel Kinn-
 ball) who died Sep. 12th 1788. Aged 24 | Also Jacob
 Hood their son born March 10th 1788 & died April 10th 1789.

Short was their association: soon rejoined
 In the dark grave to native dust consigned,
 They sleep till death the human form restore,
 And earth & skies & time shall be no more.

Edward Harrison | Son of John C. & | Sarah B. Hood |

Died | Oct. 14, 1830 | Aged 2 years.

Rest joyfully now beneath the sod,
 Until thou rise to meet thy God.

Elisha Hood | Son of | Samuel & | Lydia Hood | born |

Dec. 15, 1790 | died | Jan. 15, 1830.

John Hood | born Feb. 26, 1760, | died July 19, 1836, |
aged 76. | A soldier of the Revolution. | Also his wife | Ruth
Hood | born Dec. 3, 1762, | died March 8, 1840, | aged 78.

Miss | Ruth | Daug^t of Mr. John & | Mrs. Ruth Hood |
died Dec. 23, 1821. | Æt. 26.

Let worms devour my wasting flesh
And crumble all my bones to dust,
My God shall raise my frame anew
At the revival of the dust.

Also two infant sons.

Samuel Hood | A soldier of the | Revolution; | Born
March 1, 1762, | Died Dec. 10, 1843, | Aged 81. | Also his
wife | Lydia Hood | Born Dec. 31, 1760, | Died Dec. 2,
1734, | Aged 74.

Catherine Jane | daughter of Michael | and Louise Horris¹
| died | Oct. 11, 1839 | Aged 3 yrs.

Upon this little mound of earth,
Will friends with love sincere,
To thy dear memory fondly give
Affections sacred tear.

A casket fair is resting here,
The jewel is on high;
Oh Infant! were all hearts like thine
Who would not wish to die.

Here Lies Buried | The Body of | M^r Aaron Houey | who
Deceased | May the 4th | A D 1759 & | in the | 41st Year |
of His Age.

Here Lies Buried | The Body of Deacⁿ | Ivory Houey
who | Died Jan^r the 21st | A. D 1759 & in | the 77th Year |
of His Age

Hark from the Tombs
A dolful sound mine
Ears attend the cry
Ye living men come
See the ground
Where shortly
You must lie.

¹ Horace.

In memory of | Mrs. Mehitable Howe | who died Oct. 5,
1818, | aged 49 years.

Rest here dear mother till the
morning of the resurrection dawn.

No pain nor grief nor anxious fear
Invade thy rest, no mortal woes
Can reach the peaceful sleeper here
And angels watch the soft repose.

Here Lies Buried | the Body of | M^r Thomas Howlett |
Who Died Sep^t 14, | 1746 in the 31st | Year of His Age.

Humphrey G. Hubbard | Died | July 13, 1847, | Aged 40.

John B. | son of | Lieu^t William & Mrs. | Rebekah Hub-
bard | died Dec. 10, 1817, | aged 1 y^r 11 m^s.

Mrs. Mary A. | Wife of | William R. Hubbard | Died |
March 9, 1843; | Aged 36.

Rebekah, | wife of | Lieut. | Wm. Hubbard | Died March
15, 1818, | A^t. 37 yrs.

'Nor pains 'nor grief 'nor anxious fears,
Invade thy bounds, no mortal woes,
Can reach the peaceful sleeper here,
While angels watch the soft repose.

Died | Rev. Asahel Huntington, 1813, Aged 52. | Mrs.
Aletea Huntington, 1850, Aged 83. | Aletea Their Daugh-
ter, 1814, Aged 21. | Hezekiah Their Son, 1828, Aged 28. |
Mary Ann Their Daughter, 1836, Aged 34.

[On monument.]

Mrs. | Eunice Jackson | Relict of | Mr. Joshua Jackson |
died April 7, 1813, | A^t. 78.

When I lie buried deep in dust,
My flesh shall be thy care;
These with'ring limbs with thee I trust
To raise them strong and fair.

Phebe Ann Ingalls, | Daughter of | Henry & Anna B. |
Janes. | Died July 11, 1847; | Aged 24 yrs. | & 6 mos.

In Memory of M^r Benjamiⁿ | Kimball, late Student of |
Harvard College; who, after | a Distressing Illness, which he
| Bore with that cheerfull Resig- | nation, which Character-

izes tho^{so} | Whose Religion is of the heart, | Died, Aug^t
19th 1775, | Æt 19.

Tho' Sin's illusive joys awhile may Charm
Mankind, they lead to endless Woe & Death.
But Virtue, rich & Steadfast Blessings yields;
Support tho' Life & Wings the Soul for Heaven.

Father | Benjamin Kimball | Born | Dec. 16, 1777, | Died
1813, | Aged 36 yrs.

Abigail W. Brock | Wife of | Benjamin Kimball | 1808-
1832. | Abigail B. Bradstreet | Wife of | Benjamin Kimball
| 1814-1850. | Marietta B. | 1838-1841 | Benjamin F. |
1842-1843 | Children of Benjamin & | Abigail Bradstreet |
Kimball. | Benjamin F. | 1829-1837 | Child of Benjamin &
| Abigail Brock | Kimball. [On monument.]

In Memory of | Mr. David Kimball, | son of Mr. Jacob
and | Mrs Priscilla Kimball, | who died Nov^r 18th 1796, |
Æt. 24.

Great God I own thy sentence just
And nature must decay.
I yield my body to the dust,
To dwell with fellow day.

This humble monument is | erected in memory of | Mr.
Jacob Kimball, | who departed this life | Nov. 8, 1810.
Æt. 79. | No man ever suffered more domes | tic sorrow than
he did, with more | christian fortitude, till over come | with
age and sickness and his | multiplied distresses, his strong |
and steady mind sunk under the | complicated pressure, un-
able to | sustain the sad variety of his woes.¹

Sorrow and age and sickness all assail'd
Till strength and health & manly reason fail'd;
The stately oak that many a storm has borne,
At last is by o'erwhelming floods upturn.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In Memoriam | Jacob | Son of | Jacob and Priscilla | Kim-
ball, | Born in Topsfield in 1760, | Graduated at Harvard
College 1780, | and Died in Topsfield | July 24, 1826.²

In Memory of | Miss Lydia Kimball, | daug^r of Mr Jacob

1 Of his ten children he followed eight of them to the grave and late in life became blind.

2 Musical composer of some note. Author of Rural Harmony, 1793; Essex Harmony, 1800, etc.

& | Mrs Priscilla Kimball, | who died April 24th | 1795.
Æt. 23.

Naked as from the earth we came
And crept to life at first,
We to the earth return again
And mingle with our dust.

Erected in Memory of Miss | Mehitable Kimball, eldest
| Daughter of M^r Jacob & M^{rs} | Priscilla Kimball, who died
| Nov^r 16th 1790: Aged 32.

These gates of death no more shall e'er be burst,
Till heav'n's command shall wake the sleeping dust,
And then creation vast, immense, shall rise,
And men with angels throng th' ethereal skies.

In Memoriam | Phebe Wildes, | Wife of | Jacob Kimball,
| Born in Topsfield, | and Died June 13, 1808, | Aged 60
years.

Erected | In Memory of | Miss Priscilla Kimball, | daughter
of M^r Jacob & | Mrs. Priscilla Kimball, | who died Sep^r
28th 1792: | in the 30th year of her age.

Tho' thy arms, O Death! enfold me,
Yet thy strongest grasp will fail!
Gloomy Grave! thou canst not hold me!
I, thro' Jesus, shall prevail.

From your dark your drear dominions,
To the blissful seats above,
I shall soar on joyfull pinions
To enjoy my Saviours love.

Erected | In Memory of | Mrs. Priscilla Kimball | wife of
| Mr. Jacob Kimball | who departed this Life | Dec^r 7th
1792; in the 58th | year of her age.

Boast not, O Death! thy potent sting!
Nor think, O Grave! to hold thy prize!
From your dark mansions she shall spring,
And soar with rapture to the skies.

Samuel Kimball | Son of M^r Jacob & | M^{rs} Priscilla Kimball
| who Died Sep^r 9th | 10th, 1775; | Aged 9 Months.

Just step'd into this Busy World Below
He fell a Victim to Deaths Fatal bow
Thus Ye Gay Flow'r, when North Winds
Rise, Reclines its Beauteous Head.

In Memory of | Anna daughter of | Enos & Anna Lake |
who died Sept. 27, | 1809, Æt. 5 Years, | 11 Months, 3 days.

She glanc'd into the world to see
 A sample of our Misery;
 Then turned away her languid eye,
 To drop a tear or two & die.

In memory of | Mr. | Eliezer Lake | who died | March
 12, 1824 | Æt. 72.

Through every scene of life and death,
 His promise was my trust,
 And may this be my childrens song,
 Now I am in the dust.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

two Sons of Enos & | Anna Lake, | one died July 16, 1799
 | aged 17 hours, the other | Aug. 9, 1799, 3 w. 3 days.

Scarce had the parents fondly view'd
 Their offsprings smiling charms
 When deaths insatiate arrows flew
 And snatched them from their arms.

In Memory of | Mrs. Lucy P. Lake | wife of | Mr. David
 Lake, Jr. | who died | Sept. 9, 1831, | Aged 23 years | & 9
 months.

Mary T. | wife of | Eleazor Lake | died | Apr. 2, 1841, |
 Æt. 90.

In Memory of | Mrs. Ruth H. Lake, | wife of | Mr.
 Robert Lake Jr. | who died | Feb. 17, 1830, | aged 35 years.

Alathea H. Lamson, | Mar. 9, 1817–Nov. 22, 1842.

[On monument.]

Jacob Towne | 1785–1844.

[On monument.]

Sylvanus Wildes | 1754–1829. | Rebecca his wife | 1753–
 1837. | Charles Wildes | 1782–1826. | Mehitable Wildes |
 1756–1840. | Sarah Wildes | 1761–1840. [On monument.]

Miss | Ruth | daughter of | John & Anna | Lamson died
 | Jan. 18, 1825, | Æt. 62.

Depart my friends dry up your tears,
 Here I must lie, till Christ appears,
 Death is a debt to nature due,
 As I have paid it, so must you.

In Memory of | Mr John Lefavour | Ob^t Aug. 26th 1798,
 | in the 81st Year | of his Age.

Of all the sorrows that attend mankind,
 With patience bore the lot to him assign'd
 At four score years he bid the world adieu,
 And paid with joy the debt to nature due.

John Lefavour 2^d | Died | Nov. 13, 1834, | Aged 86. |
 His wife died | Oct. 7, 1846, | Aged 95.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In Memory of | Mrs. Mary Lefavour, | wife of Mr. John
 Lefavour, | Obt. May 28th, 1797.

Reader pass on, ne'er waste your time,
 On bad biography, and bitter rhyme,
 For what I am, this cumb'rous clay ensures,
 And what I was, is no affair of yours.

Erected by Amos Lefavour.

Mr. | Stephen W. Lemont, | a native of | Litchfield, Maine
 | Died in this Town | April 21, 1844, | Aged 27.

Mr. | Frederic J. Merriam | Died | March 25, 1843, |
 Aged 54 yrs.

Dr. John | Merriam, | Died | Nov. 21, 1817 | Æt. 59 y'rs.

Hannah | wife of | Dr. John Merriam | Died | Feb. 20,
 1806, | Æt. 45 y'rs. | Almira | their daughter | Died | Feb.
 12, 1839 | Æt. 48 y'rs.

Jonas | son of Lieu^t Jonas | & Mrs. Mchitable | Meriam
 died June | 26, 1796, aged | 2 months.

Mary Ann | wife of | Gillmon F. Morrill | Died Sept. 1,
 1847. | Aged 30 years.

My dear companion you I leave,
 Though long and sorely you will grieve,
 This grave contains your blooming bride,
 And soon you must lay by my side.

In Memory of | Miss Susanna Northey | who died | May,
 18, 1827, | Æt. 55.

Sacred | To the Memory of | Charles | Son of Lieutenant
 | B. R. & Ann | Ottley | Obt. 8 Feb. 1824, | Aged 19
 months.

In memory of | Mrs. Lucy | widow of | Mr. John Parker,
 | who died | June 7, 1835; | Æt. 71.

Amelia | Wife of | Cyrus Peabody, | Died Sept. 19, 1848,
| Æt. 23.

Cyrus, | son of Mr. John P. | & Mrs. Esther | Peabody,
died | Sept. 14, 1814, | Æt. 4.

Eben^r Peabody | Died | July 16, 1825 | Æt 47.

Elizabeth | Widow of | Jacob Peabody, | & late consort
of | Elias Tarr | Died | Aug. 28, 1849 | Æ. 53.

We wept to see thee die,
We mourn thy absence yet;
O, may we meet thee in the sky,
And there our tears forget.

In Memory of | Mrs. Esther wife of | John P. Peabody |
who died | Aug. 11, 1842, | Aged 52 Yrs.

She being dead yet speaketh.

Though soon her dust returns to dust,
Her soul to God is given;
It is not dead it is not death
To pass from earth to Heaven.

Joel Wm | son of Joel R. | & Mary B. | Peabody, | died
May 7, | 1844 | Æt. 14 yrs 10 ms.

We sink like drips of summer showers
As grass we're mown we're pluck'd as flow'rs

John P. Peabody | Died | November 5, 1846, | Æt. 66.

Farewell to earth and earthly scenes,
To children, sister, brother, friends;
And while God gives you life and health,
Improve your time prepare for death.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

Erected | In Memory of | Mrs. Lydia | Consort of Mr.
John | Peabody, Jr. | Who departed this life | Nov. 20, 1813.
| Æt. 27.

Reader if love of worth, thy bosom warm,
If virtue please thee or if friendship charm,
Upon this marble drop a tender tear,
Worth, virtue, friendship, all are buried here.

In Memory of | Mrs. Mary B. | wife of | Joel R. Peabody,
| who died | Feb. 14, 1839 | Aged 39.

Thy spirit with its God, who gave,
Thy dust endears this hallowed grave.

Thomas S. Peabody | Died | Oct. 31, 1839, | Aged 1 yr.
 | Edwin A. Peabody | died Sept. 10, 1842, | aged 8 yrs. |
 Children of Augustine S. & Helena | Peabody.

[On monument.]

In Memory of | Mr. Amos Perkins | who departed this life
 | Sep. 18, 1814; | Æt. 83.

In Memory of | Mrs. Annar Perkins, | Relict of | Mr.
 Moses Perkins, | who departed this life | Feb. 9, 1825; |
 Æt. 90 years 3 mos. | & 19 days.

Prompt[t] to perform the duties of her sphere,
 Her hand industrious, and her heart sincere,
 By all, who knew her, and her virtues prov'd,
 She died lamented, as she lived belov'd.

In memory of | Miss Betty Perkins | Dau^r of Mr. Amos
 & | Mrs. Kezia Perkins, | who departed this life | Jan. 22.
 1794. | Aged 29 years.

Sacred | to the memory of | Mr. | David Perkins, | who
 died | July 27, 1827: | Æt. 71.

In Memory of | Elijah, Son of | Zebulon & Mary | Per-
 kins | who died | May 17, 1806, | Aged 15 yrs.

To the memory of | Mr. Elisha Perkins | who departed
 this life | May 20th 1802, | Aged 49.

Jesus can make a dying bed
 Feel soft as downy pillows are,
 While on his breast I lean my head
 And breathe my life out sweetly there.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In Memory of | Elizabeth Perkins | Daughter of Ezra &
 | Elizabeth Perkins, | who died | March 14, 1822, | Æt. 26.

"As Jesus died and rose again
 Victorious from the dead;
 So his disciples rise and reign
 With their triumphant head."

In Memory of | Elizabeth Perkins, | wife of | Ezra Per-
 kins | who died Aug. 6, 1822. | Æt. 68.

How blest is our friend—now bereft
 Of all that could burden her mind;
 How easy her soul that has left,
 This wearisome body behind.

In Memory of | Mr. | Ephraim Perkins | who died | Dec.
11, 1843, | Aged 74 Yrs.

Mrs. | Esther Perkins | Wife of Mr. Robert Perkins, | Jun^r,
died July 29, 1817, | Æt. 63.

In Memory of | Mr. Ezra Perkins | who died Nov. 12,
1824, | Æt. 71.

"No more the weary pilgrim mourns,
No more affliction wrings his heart,
Th' unfetter'd soul to God returns,
Forever he and anguish part."

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In | Memory of | Mrs. Hannah Perkins | Relict of Mr.
Robert | Perkins, who departed | this Life July 22, 1802, |
in the 78th year of | her age.

In memory of | Miss Hannah Perkins, Daug. of | Mr.
Robert & Mrs. Hannah | Perkins, who died Nov^r 16, 1802,
| Aged 47 years.

In memory of | Mr | Jacob Perkins | Born | Feb. 24, 1783,
| Died | Nov. 5, 1841, | Aged 58.

In memory of | Miss Kezia Perkins | Dau^r of Mr Amos &
| Mrs. Kezia Perkins | who departed this life | Oct. 28,
1782 | Aged 22 years.

In Memory of | Mrs. Kezia Perkins. | Relict of Mr. Amos
Perkins, | who departed this life | Jan. 22. 1815. | Æt 77.

In memory of | Miss Lydia, | Daughter of Mr. Robert |
and Mrs. Hannah Perkins, | who died Feb. 27, | 1830, Æt. 72.

In Memory of | Martha wife of | Thomas Perkins | who
died Sept 4th 1776, | Aged 41 years | and also of | Daniel
Perkins Son of | Thomas & Martha Perkins | who died at
Sea, | March 14th 1800. | Aged 38 years.

In memory of | Mary Ann, | Died July 19, 1828, | Æt.
19 years | Judith S. | Died Aug. 17, 1826, | Æt. 10 years, |
Daughters of | Nathaniel & Judith | Perkins.

In Memory of | Mrs. | Mary Perkins | Relict of | Zebulon
Perkins | who died | March 23, 1839, | Aged 94 yrs. 9 mos.

Miss | Mehitable Perkins | Daughter of | Mr. Robert &
| Mrs. Hannah Perkins | died Dec. 8, 1813. | Æt. 46.

In memory of | Mrs. Mercy | Widow of | Mr. Elisha Perkins,
| Who died | Mar. 10, 1848, | Æt. 89 yrs. 9 mos. | &
10 ds.

In memory of | Mr. Moses Perkins, | who departed this
life | Aug. 7, 1807; | Æt. 74 years & 8 months:

Vain world adieu! thy stormy scenes I leave,
And seek the peaceful slumbers of the grave;
Adieu ye friends, who once possessed my heart,
Dispel your grief, tis Jesus bids us part.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Mrs. Nabby | Wife of | David Perkins, | Died | Oct. 25,
1842, | Aged 82 Yrs. 8 mos.

In memory of | Peggy Perkins | daughter of | Thomas &
Martha | Perkins | who died June 30, 1822, | Aged 51 years
& 6 mo.

To the memory of | Polly Perkins Dau. of | Mr. Elisha &
Mrs. | Mercy Perkins, who | died March 1st 1788, | Aged 2
years and | 6 months.

Re^{ka} Perkins

[An early foot stone.]

In | Memory of | Mr. Robert Perkins | who departed this
life | Nov. 10th 1801 | in the 73^d year | of his age.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Robert Perkins | died Oct. 9, 1814 | Æt. 22. | Betsey Perkins
| died July 18, 1814 | Æt. 17. | Children of Mr. Robert
Jun^r | & Mrs. Esther Perkins.

In Memory of | Mr. Robert Perkins | who died | Jan. 14,
1825, | in the 65 year | of his age.

He needs not words of monumental fame,
To speak his worth, or celebrate his name,
His works can truest speak, can praise him best,
And well assure us, that his soul is blest.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In memory of | Salome | wife of | Asa Perkins, | Died
Apr. 6, 1845, | Æt. 79.

Hear Laes the Body | of Sarah Perkins | who Departed
This | Life January y^e 21 Day | 1719-20 Aged 20 Years | &
9 Months & 24 Days.

Erected | In Memory of | Cap^t Stephen Perkins, | who de-
parted this life | October 22^d: 1790: | Aged 64 years.

So sleep the saints & cease to grone,
When sin and death have done their worst,
Christ hath a glory like his own,
Which waits to clothe their sleeping dust.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Here Lyes y^e Body | of Cap Tobijah | Perkins who Depar-
| ted this Life May | 1 1723 Aged 76 | Years & 6 month^s |
& 11 Days.

In memory of three | Infants, Children of | Thomas &
Martha Perkins | Born and died Sept 19, 1760, | and also of
Israel son of | Thomas & Martha Perkins | who died | March
21st 1765 | Aged 11 months.

In Memory of | Thomas Perkins | who died Jan. 5th 1801.
| Aged 75 Years, | and also of | Dinah wife of | Thomas
Perkins | who died Oct. 20th 1756, | Aged 22 years.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

In Memory of | Thomas Perkins Esq. | An eminent Mer-
chant | His Industry, Temperance & Enterprise | Raised him
From Poverty to Immense | Wealth, which he enjoyed with-
out Pride | Or Ostentation and dispensed with Justice | And
Benevolence. He was diligent and | Faithful in business
pure in his life and | Conversation; of a sound & vigorous
mind | And of an Integrity and Fortitude which | Neither
Prosperity or Adversity could | Shake or corrupt. | He was
an affectionate son, a kind relative | And a firm friend. |
He was a Christian above Sectarian prejudice | And a Man
above Fear & without reproach | He was born in Topsfield,
| April 2, 1758 and | died Nov. 24, 1830.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Sacred | To the Memory of | Mr. Zebulon Perkins | who
died | Sept. 22, 1810, | Æt. 69 years | & 8 months.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Miss | Betsey | Daughter of Mr. Stephen | & Mrs. Elisabeth
Perley, | died Nov 17, 1819 | Æt. 34.

Elizabeth Perley, | Huldah Perley | Erected by | Huldah
Perley. [On monument.]

In memory of | Fanny Perley, Daug. of | Mr. Stephen &
Mrs. Elisabeth | Perley who died Sep^t 30, 1800, | Aged 13
years.

Erected in Memory of M^{rs} | Lucy Perley, wife of M^r Solo-
mon | Perley (& 4th Daug^r of M^r Jacob | & M^{rs} Priscilla Kim-
ball.) who | died Sep^t 29th 1790: Aged 23. | Also Lucy their
infant daug^r born | Aug^t 9th & died Nov^r 5th 1790.

As vernal storms both tree & fruit destroy,
So death thee Lucy & thy budding joy:
Farewell! for thee each feeling heart shall
(mourn)

And oft to mind thy friendly soul return.

Gen. Nathaniel Perley, | Born | Apr. 16, 1800, | Died |
Nov. 21, 1842.

In memory of | Sally Perley, Daugh. of | Mr. Stephen &
Mrs. | Elisabeth Perley, who | died June 20, 1795; | Aged
5 years.

The Heirs of | Stephen Perley Jr. | to the Memory of |
Stephen Perley Sen. | who died Feb. 16, 1839, | Aged 92.
| And of his wife Elisabeth | who died April 4, 1840, |
Aged 87.

Harriet E. | dau. of Richard | & Elizabeth | Phillips, |
born Jan. 26 | 1832, | died June 2 | 1842 | Æt 10 yrs. 4
mos | & 6 days

In Memory of | Phebe Phillips, | daughter of | Samuel &
| Lydia Phillips, | who died | Aug. 12, 1828; | Aged 6
years.

Samuel Phillips | died | Nov. 8, 1827 | Æt. 38. | We
loved him.

Susan Ann Marcy | dau. of Richard | and Elizabeth H.
| Phillips, died | March 5, 1838, | Æt. 10 months.

Reader hark ! and hear this Infant strike
 On golden harp those tunes divine.
 See O ! See her round the throne of God,
 Tuneing her sweet voice in angel song.

In Memory of | Mrs. Priscilla B. | wife of | Abraham T.
 Pierce, | who died | Sept. 18, 1837, | Aged 53.

This stone stands here, to
 tell the place,
 Where her dust lies, not
 what she was;
 When Saints shall rise that
 day will show,
 The part she acted here
 below.

Asa Pingree, | Born June 25, 1770, | Died April 24, 1834.
 | Annar Perkins, | Wife of Asa Pingree, | Born May 31,
 1771, | Died June 9, 1853.

Erected by their Daughter, to the memory of all the Sleepers in this enclosure.

Here lies Buried | the Body of | Elijah Porter Esq^r | who
 died Suddenly on | the 17th of Dec^r 1775, in | 63^d Year of
 His Age.

The good Mans ways are Gods delight
 He Orders all his Steps aright.

Erected by | Mrs. Hannah Perkins, | In memory of | her
 adopted daughter, | Susan M. Putney, | who died Sept. 27,
 1848, | Æt. 16 yrs. & 5 mos.

Though our young branch is torn away,
 Like withered trunks we stand;
 With fairer verdure shall we bloom,
 Touched by th' Almighty's hand.

Horace | died July 9, 1844, | aged 10 yrs, 1 mo. | Louisa
 C. | died May 30, 1846, | aged 10 yrs. | Children of | Wil-
 liam & Louisa Ray.

An infant son | of William & Louisa Ray | died Sept. 14,
 1847 | Aged 11 days.

John Sawyer | Died | August 26, 1848, | Æt. 45 yrs. & 6
 mos.

[Front.] Erected by | George A. Smith | & other | De-
 scendants in | Utah. 1873 | [Base.] Smith. | [Right Side.]
 Samuel Smith | son of | Robert & Mary, | Born in | Tops-

field Mass. | Jan. 26, 1666 | Died | July 12, 1748. | Rebecca
 | his wife, | Daughter of | John Curtice | Died Mar. 2, 1753
 | Æt. 65 yrs. | [Left Side.] Samuel Smith | Born | Jan. 26,
 1714, | Died | Nov. 14, 1785. | Priscilla | his wife | Daughter
 of | Zaccheus Gould | Born | Aug. 4, 1707 | Died | Sept.
 25, 1785. [Monument.]

Capt. | Henry Stickman, | Died at sea, July 28, 1849, |
 Æt. 60 yrs. [On monument.]

William Porter Gould | Son of | Jonathan P. & Mary E.
 Gould | Died Feb. 3, 1844; | Aged 1 yr. 5 mos. & 12 ds.
 [On monument.]

Sarah Atossa | Daughter of | Stillman and | Sarah Stone
 | died | May 15, 1832 | Æt. 11 months.

To the Memory of | Mrs. Elisabeth Towne, | wife of |
 Mr. Jacob Towne | who departed this Life | May 12th 1800
 in the 69th | year of her age.

What tho' our sleeping bodies lie
 Consign'd to dust & food for worms,
 Yet Christ will raise them to the sky,
 All glorious in Celestial forms.

Mr. | Jacob Towne | departed this life | September 18,
 1807, | aged 70 years | & 6 months.

Blessed are they and only they
 Who in the Lord the Saviour die,
 Their bodies wait Redemption's day,
 And sleep in peace where e're they lie.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

Jacob Towne | 1768-1836. | Mary | His wife | 1768-1845.

Jacob Town | Died | May 4, 1844 | Æt. 58 yrs. 6 mos.

Jacob P. [Towne] | 1847-1848. [On monument.]

Charlotte | wife of | Wm. Waite | Died | Nov. 17, 1843,
 | Aged 23.

Harriet | Wife of | Hiram Wells, | Died | Sept. 5, 1837 |
 Aged 25 yrs.

Dudley Wildes | Jr | Died Jan. 11, 1820, | Aged 34 yrs.

Col. | Ephraim Wildes, | died | Jan. 31, 1829, | Æt. 47.

Friends, nor Physician could not save,
My mortal body from the grave;
Nor can the grave confine me here,
When Christ commands me to appear.

John Wildes | Died | Feb. 4, 1849 | Aged 65.

Lydia Ann His Wife | [Israel Wildes,] | May 20, 1816-
Sept. 25, 1747. | Almon O. Their Son | Sept. 25, 1843-
Sept. 26, 1847. | [On monument.]

Mr. | Moses Wildes | departed this life | July 24, 1810, |
Æt. 70.

The saints though buried in the dust,
Shall rise again among the Just,
Surviving friends who drop a tear
Remember your own death is near.

[Revolutionary Soldier.]

A son of | Mr. Moses & | Mrs. Esther Wildes | died April
17, 1812 | aged 10 days.

Moses Wildes, | Died | Jan. 2, 1838, | Æt. 60 y'rs, 4 mo's,
| & 29 days.

Moses Wildes | 1777-1838. | Infant son [of Joseph and
Susan Wildes] | 1812. | [On monument.]

Mrs. | Phebe | wife of | Mr. Solomon Wildes, | died April
18, 1824, | Æt. 26.

Ah hapless Son and Partner dear,
When o'er my grave you shed a tear,
May faith direct you to the shore
Where new born souls shall part no more.

Mrs. Rachel | Consort of | Col. Ephraim Wildes, | died |
April 16, 1830, | Æt. 47.

They were lovely and pleasant
in their lives, and in their death
they were not long divided.

2 Samuel, 1, 23.

Mrs. | Susanna | relict of | Mr. Moses Wildes, | died |
Feb. 20, 1837, | Æt 85.

Our life how short ! a groan, a sigh,
We live—and then begin to die.
But oh ! how great a mercy this,
That death's a portal into bliss.



NATHANIEL PEABODY.

[This Profile was taken about the year 1810.]

HON. NATHANIEL PEABODY.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH, FROM FARMER AND MOORE'S
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS, VOL. III, PAGE I,
CONCORD, N. H., 1824.

NATHANIEL PEABODY was born at Topsfield in the county of Essex and Province of Massachusetts-Bay, Wednesday the 18th day of February, O. S. 1740, corresponding with March 1, 1741. His father, *Jacob Peabody*, who was an eminent physician and a man of literature and science, removed in April, 1745, from Topsfield to Leominster in the county of Worcester, and resided there till his death in 1758. His mother was Susanna, daughter of the *Rev. John Rogers*, who was for fifty years minister of Boxford, Mass. She was of the tenth generation in the direct line of descent from John Rogers, the martyr burnt at Smithfield, and possessed a strong and cultivated mind. Nathaniel derived his early education entirely from his father, never having attended school a day in his life. He also studied and practised physic with him from twelve till eighteen years of age, when his father died. At about the age of twenty, he went to that part of Plaistow in New Hampshire, which was afterwards annexed to the town of Atkinson, and there soon acquired extensive practice. March 1, 1763, he married Abigail, daughter of Samuel Little, Esq. of Plaistow, but they had no children. She still survives, though bowed down with infirmity and age. Early in life the subject of this notice was a favourite with the government of the province, and held several offices under it. April 30, 1771, when only thirty years old, he, together with Meshech Weare, Matthew

Thornton, Wyseman Clagett and others, was commissioned by Gov. John Wentworth as a Justice of the Peace and of the quorum for the county of Rockingham, and was, no doubt, in the commission of the peace, for some years previously to that time. In the same commission several, who were considerably his elders and afterwards became distinguished, were appointed merely justices of the peace. From these facts it may be inferred that he was at that early period of life regarded as no ordinary man; for the office of justice of the quorum was then, and for many years afterwards, much more responsible and important than at the present day. Any three or more justices of the quorum had power to hold courts, to "enquire by the oath of good and lawful men of the county," as to numerous misdeeds and offences, "and to inspect all indictments taken before them, and to hear and determine all indictments, trespasses and misdeeds, and all other, the premises (in their commission mentioned), and to punish offenders by fines, amerciaments, forfeitures or otherwise according to law." Oct. 27, 1774, Doct. Peabody was appointed Lieut. Colonel of the 7th regiment of militia. At this time the controversy between the colonies and the parent country had approached near its crisis; the revolution was rapidly dawning, and the battle of Lexington was fought the succeeding April. Col. Peabody espoused, with ardour, the cause of his country and was the first man in New-Hampshire who resigned a King's commission on account of political opinions. In December of this year he went with Maj. Sullivan, Capt. John Langdon, Josiah Bartlett and others, who assaulted Fort William and Mary at New-Castle, confined the captain of the fort and his five men, and carried off a hundred barrels of powder. This important enterprize was accomplished at the most fortunate point of time, just before the arrival of several companies of the King's troops, who took possession of the fort.

Col. Peabody was a delegate or agent from Atkinson to a convention of agents from about forty towns in Massachusetts-Bay and New-Hampshire, held at the house of Maj. Joseph Varnum in Dracut, Nov. 26, 1776. Capt. John Bodwell of Methuen was chairman, and Nathaniel Peabody, clerk. Its object was, as the record states, to take into consideration

"the alarming situation of our public affairs at this time on account of the exorbitant prices that are demanded and taken in consideration for many of the necessities of life, by which means our paper currency is daily depreciating in value and the honest mechanic and labourer very much distressed by the extortion of the merchant, trader, farmer and others, whereby many good and valuable men are much discouraged from engaging in the service of these states, to the great damage of the continental army, upon which, under God, the future safety and well being of these states very much depend. The convention voted to petition the General Courts of Massachusetts-bay and New-Hampshire "to take the premises under consideration and so to regulate the purchases and sales of the necessities of life as to obviate the evil we imagine will otherwise ensue." Two committees were appointed to draft the petitions. Colonel Peabody was chairman of one of them, and his draft was adopted by the other committee. It was voted that "Oliver Barron and Nathaniel Peabody be a committee in behalf of this convention to prefer the aforementioned petition to the honorable General Court of the State of Massachusetts-bay and that they pursue the same so far as shall be reasonable in order to have the prayer thereof granted." In December of the same year, Colonel Peabody appears as a Representative in the General Court from the district of Atkinson and Plaistow. In 1777, he was again in the Assembly, and appears from the journals to have been a very efficient and leading member. He was on a committee with John Wentworth, jr. Jonathan Mitchell Sewall and Samuel Gilman, jr. Esquires, "to draw up and bring in a bill for the trial and punishment of persons, who shall by any misbehaviour, in word or deed, be adjudged inimical to the liberty and freedom of the States of America (not within the act against treason,) and directing how such trials shall be had and how judgment thereon shall be executed." January 8, he was first on a committee appointed to consider and report "what and who shall be deemed the supreme executive power in this State within the intent and meaning of the act against treason and misprison of treason." He and Wyseman Clagett were a committee on the part of the Assembly, to prepare and bring in a bill for a

new proportion of taxes. Besides these, he was chairman of several other committees to whom were referred subjects of the greatest importance to the liberty and welfare of the State. Jan. 10th, he, together with Meshech Weare, Nicholas Gilman, Josiah Bartlett, John Dudley and others, was appointed by the council and assembly a committee of safety, and he took his seat with the committee the 20th of that month. This was, perhaps, the highest trust in the gift of the General Court, and was committed to none but men of tried patriotism and integrity. "To this committee" says Belknap, "the general instruction was similar to that, given by the Romans to their Dictators, 'to take under consideration all matters in which the welfare of the Province, in the security of their rights is concerned; and to take the utmost care, that the public sustain no damage.' Particular instructions were given to them from time to time, as occasion required. They were considered as the supreme executive; and during the recess of the convention, their orders and recommendations had the same effect as the acts and resolves of that whole body." So extensive were the powers of this committee in 1775 and for several years afterwards; but at the close of 1779 or the beginning of 1780 they were, for some pique against the committee, "almost wholly taken away."

In the course of 1777, '78, and '79, Col. Peabody was elected, at six or seven different times, a member of the committee, and in 1778 served on it forty-two days. His shrewdness, vigilance, and activity, qualified him in a peculiar manner for this station; and, it is said, he was eminently successful in detecting and exposing the treasonable practices of the Tories.

June 27, 1777, he was appointed by the General Court, and commissioned by Meshech Weare, a justice of the peace and of the quorum for the county of Rockingham.

July 18, Josiah Bartlett and Nathaniel Peabody were appointed by this State "to meet committees from the States of Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, and New-York, at the town of Springfield, in the county of Hampshire, on the 30th of July, inst. (1778,) then and there to hold a conference respecting the state of paper currency of the said

Government: of the expediency of calling in the same by taxes or otherwise: of the most effectual, expeditious, and equal method of doing it; and to consult upon the best means for preventing the depreciation and counterfeiting the same; and also to consider what is proper to be done with respect to the acts lately made to prevent monopoly and oppression; and to confer upon the late acts for preventing the transportation by land of certain articles from one State to another; and to consider such other matters as particularly concern the immediate welfare of said States, and are not repugnant to, or interfering with the powers and authorities of the Continental Congress: And report the result of their conference, to the General Court of this State, as soon as may be."

A report was accordingly made to the General Court, and on the 19th of September, several measures, recommended by the Convention, were adopted by the Council and Assembly in committee of the whole. One of them was the redeeming and calling in of the paper currency emitted by this State, by means of the issue of Treasury notes bearing interest and founded on the faith and credit of the State. Another was the "repealing of the acts for regulating prices, &c. and for making provision for the families of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers in the service of this State and engaged in the Continental army for 3 years or during the war."

July 19th, he was appointed Adjutant-General of Militia of this State, with the rank of Colonel, and in the following year was in that capacity with our troops at Rhode-Island under General Whipple, as appears by the pay roll. He commanded a regiment of volunteers at the same place and as one of them remarks, "was an excellent officer, kind and attentive to the soldiery, but when on parade, they had to look well to the right." He and Josiah Bartlett went to Bennington by appointment of the State to take care of, and provide for, the remains of the sickly retreating troops who fought the battle of Bennington, and those who had evacuated Ticonderoga.

The Continental Congress having passed a resolve recommending to the Legislatures of the States of New-Hampshire,

Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware respectively to appoint commissioners to convene at New-Haven in Connecticut on the 15th day of January, 1778, "in order to regulate and ascertain the price of labor, manufactures, internal produce, and commodities imported from foreign parts, military stores excepted, and also to regulate the charges of inn-holders, and that on the report of the Commissioners, each of the respective Legislatures enact suitable laws for enforcing the observance of such of the regulations as they shall ratify;" Jonathan Blanchard and Nathaniel Peabody were appointed commissioners by New-Hampshire, and went to New-Haven. Pennsylvania and Delaware were not represented. The convention elected Hon. Thomas Cushing of Massachusetts-Bay, President, and proceeded to the discharge of their duty.

After saying in their report that the Commissioners "have not been insensible of the principles upon which an opposition to the regulation of prices by law is founded," they defend their measures on the ground of the recommendation of Congress, and of their being "an immediate remedy of the exorbitant evils complained of." In this convention were several men distinguished for talents and patriotism, and among them the celebrated Roger Sherman of Connecticut, and Robert Treat Paine of Massachusetts-Bay.

Early in the revolution, and probably about 1777 or '78, Colonel Peabody and General Blanchard, were appointed to perform the duties of Attorney General, and they discharged them in a manner satisfactory to the Government, and advantageous to the people.

In 1778, he was again representative, and re-appointed a justice of the peace, and of the quorum for Rockingham. He was (with Josiah Bartlett and Nicholas Gilman,) on the committee of secret correspondence till '79.

In 1779, he was re-elected to the Assembly and acted with the committee of safety till the 27th of February. Being elected, March 25, a Delegate to the Continental Congress, he of necessity resigned his other employments in the Legislature and committee. April 3d, he and Woodbury Langdon were appointed Delegates to Congress "in the room and

stead" of Josiah Bartlett and John Wentworth, jr. who had resigned. Colonel Peabody was named in this vote for the purpose of supplying a defect in the former one, by determining when his duties should commence. He took his seat in Congress the 22d of June, and immediately became an active and useful member. The 3d of September he was added to the Medical Committee, and must soon have become chairman of it, as the "general return of the sick and wounded in the hospital of the United States," made by W. Shippen, jr. Director-General of the Medical Department, the 27th of December following, was directed to him as "Chairman of the Medical Committee." The functions of this committee, though at first highly important, were, after the arrest of the Director-General, greatly augmented by a resolve of the 26th of June, 1780, authorising said committee to take proper measures for carrying on the business of the Hospital Department, and requiring all medical gentlemen, and others attached to the said department, to pay obedience to the orders of the committee.

November 16, 1779, Colonel Peabody and Mr. Langdon, our Delegates in Congress, were appointed commissioners on the part of this State to meet commissioners from "all the States as far westward as Virginia inclusive," in a convention to be holden at Philadelphia the following January, "to take into consideration the expediency of limiting the prices of merchandize and produce, with the view of thereby preventing the further depreciation of our currency." This convention, it seems, was called upon the recommendation of another, which had been holden at Hartford the October preceding, "to consider these matters." In the letter of President Weare to our Delegates, informing them of their appointment to the Philadelphia convention, he speaks of "the alarming situation of our currency, and the great danger there is that our military operations, which at present are greatly embarrassed, will be finally totally destroyed through the enormous demands which are made for the necessities of life." "The measure of regulating prices," he remarks, "is found to be attended with many difficulties, and it is feared, will have little or no good effect, unless it be general. And what effect it may then have is problematical;

but every method which appears to have a tendency to remedy the evils, which threaten the ruin of our currency, must be attempted." The total failure of all these expedients to avert the ruin of the currency, and relieve the general distress, should not derogate from the honor of being selected to make the attempt. In times like those, the people naturally look to the best and wisest men for relief.

At the commencement of the year 1780, the country was apparently on the brink of ruin. The public treasury was empty; the paper currency had almost entirely lost its value; the public faith had failed; the army greatly reduced in number, destitute of pay, clothing, and sometimes of food, was on the point of mutiny; peculation and disorder had crept into the public offices; and speculation, engrossing, forestalling, and extortion every where prevailed.

In this state of affairs, Congress resolved to appoint a committee to proceed to head quarters, to consult with the Commander in Chief, and the Commissary and Quartermaster General about the defects of the present system; to carry into execution any plan for conducting the Quartermaster and Commissary departments; to consolidate regiments, abolish unnecessary posts, erect others, discharge unnecessary officers, retrench expenses, and generally to exercise every power requisite to effect a reformation of abuses and the general arrangements of the departments in any way connected with the matters committed to them. These powers were extended, by subsequent acts of Congress. The 13th of April, 1780, Philip Schuyler* of New-York, John Matthews† of South Carolina, and Nathaniel Peabody of New-Hampshire, were by ballot, appointed the committee, and forthwith proceeded to Morristown.

In a communication of the 28th of May to the President of Congress, written by Colonel Peabody, the committee say:

"In our letter of the 9th instant to Congress, we observed, that if the spirit of discontent, which then prevailed among the soldiery, should fully establish itself, it would be productive of the most serious consequences. The causes which contributed to the first rise of dissatisfaction continuing,

* Afterwards General Schuyler.

† Afterwards Governor of South Carolina.

have increased and ripened into mutiny. Two entire regiments of the Connecticut line, paraded on Thursday evening with their arms, accoutrements, and packs, intending to march off and return to the State. They complained of inability any longer to endure the torture of famine and the variety of distress they experienced. On this serious occasion the officers displayed a wisdom and prudence which does them honor; their exertions reduced the disorder to bounds of moderation, and the soldiery were prevailed on to desist from intentions so injurious to their country, so derogatory to their honor: they retired to their huts with passions cooled down indeed, but with evident signs of discontent and chagrin, and left their officers with the painful reflection that a repetition of similar distress was only wanting to complete a scene which they cannot contemplate without horror. The brave, patriotic, and virtuous band of officers of every line, have already given up their rations to the soldiery, submitted literally to bread and water as their only sustenance. By this scanty fare, they continue to set an example to, and keep, the soldiery in tolerable temper; but with tears in their eyes, such as men who feel for the distresses of their country may shed without pusillanimity, stated their apprehensions, that the dissolution of the army was at hand, unless constant supplies of provisions at least were kept up.

"Persuaded, Sir, that to be silent on such occasions would be criminal, we will address our compeers, with decency, but with freedom; we will advise them, that something more is necessary than mere recommendation, or they will lose an army, and thereby risk the loss of an empire. Times and exigencies render it sometimes necessary for the governing power to deviate from the strait line of conduct which regular constitutions prescribe. When such deviation is necessary for the preservation of the whole, it is incumbent on rulers to put themselves on the judgment of their country, to stand acquitted or condemned by it; such times, such exigency, such deviation, have heretofore taken place; they are marked on the journals of Congress; and the honest patriot reflects with gratitude, that there were men who at all hazards dared to save their country. We entreat Congress

seriously to consider, whether such times and exigencies do not now exist; if they do, shall posterity say that those who directed the affairs of America at this æra, were less intrepid and more attentive to personal consequences than their predecessors? Heaven forbid the thought! Our affairs, it is true, are alarmingly deranged; but bold and decisive measures, adopted and prudently executed, will restore all; our pristine vigour will be renewed, and the contest end in a glorious expulsion of the minions of a tyrant."

In another letter of June 5th, they write, "Since our last, we have received a letter from the Commander in Chief, stating the necessity of specific requisitions from the States, for *men, provisions, forage, and the means of transportation*. We have, in consequence, addressed ourselves to the several States on the subject, and made requisitions from each."

Their appeal to the States was urgent and eloquent, and produced a favourable effect. In a letter from Schuyler and Peabody to the President of Congress, dated Preakness, July 18th, they say.

"It was reasonable to conclude, that every State, so fully advised of the alarming situation of public affairs, would not have left any measure, to which it was equal, unassayed, to preserve the empire from the impending ruin with which it was threatened, support its honor, and maintain its character amongst the powers of the earth; and especially to establish the great object, to accomplish which they had already expended such a deluge of blood. We have learnt, with the most sensible satisfaction, that the people in most of the States are roused from the torpor which had generally prevailed; that a due sense of duty to their country has, with all ranks of men, been productive of a patriotic activity, evincing that they mean effectually to support the common cause; that some of the States, from whom aid has been required, have explicitly advised us of their intentions; whilst others have been partial, and some altogether silent on the subject."

This important committee was discharged August 11, 1780, and directed to report their proceedings to Congress. From the brief sketch here given, only a very inadequate estimate of their special powers and labours can be formed. The

record of their proceedings, including copies of many letters from General Washington, General Greene, and others, together with military returns and other official documents, fills a folio volume of three hundred and fifty-four closely written pages, and is an honorable monument of the untiring industry, enlightened views, distinguished firmness and energy, and devoted patriotism, of the committee. These qualities, however, did not shield them from the arts and intrigues of a "wicked cabal" in Congress, who sought the ruin of Gen. Greene and some other men, that were an honor to their country, and for whose services in the revolution, the American people, while they continue to value liberty, will never cease to be grateful. In a letter to Col. Peabody, dated "Camp at Kennemach, Sept 6, 1780," Gen. Greene remarks,

"You have had your day of difficulty, as well as I. Congress seems to have got more out of temper with the committee than with me; and I am told, charge great part of the difficulties upon the committee, that have taken place between them and me. However, of this, I suppose, you are better informed than I am. It appears to me, that Congress were apprehensive some disagreeable consequences might take place from the measures they have been pursuing contrary to the advice of the committee; and, therefore, they took the earliest opportunity to bring them into disgrace, to lessen their influence. The committee stand fair with the army, and I believe with the public at large; and, bad as our condition is, I believe we are altogether indebted to the committee for the tolerable state we are in."

Mr. Matthews, of the committee, whom Gen. Sullivan, in a letter to Col. Peabody, calls "your friend Matthews, an honest and sincere man," wrote Col. Peabody from Philadelphia, Oct. 3, 1780:—

"Thus much from my friendship you may rely on, that no man shall take your name in vain. As to "the committee's wanting to be made Lords and Protectors," I can say thus much, that by the Great God that made me! if I thought I could have influence enough to make any honest set of men the REAL PROTECTORS of this grievously injured people, I would harangue the multitude night and day! I would

rush into the midnight cabals of artful and designing men, and drag them forth to public view! In short, what is it I would not do, at the hazard of my life, to save this land from impending ruin! I each day see the rocks and shoals present their ghastly forms to us; yet, alas! my forebodings are treated with derision, and our helmsmen invariably steer the same course. It will take no great length of time to shew what will be the event. I tremble for our fate."

Excepting the time consumed by the mission to Head Quarters, or when Col. Peabody was confined by sickness, the journals bear evidence, that he was always at his post in Congress, faithfully discharging the duties of his station. Letters in his files also show, that his conduct was approved and applauded by many of the most illustrious patriots of that time. One from Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, dated Nov. 2, 1779, contains the following tribute of praise:—

"Though not personally acquainted with you, I hope I shall be pardoned for this letter. I have seen the proceedings of Congress in a late affair, and I have observed New-Hampshire supporting the cause of virtue against a very powerful and not less artful and wicked cabal, aiming at the public injury through the sides of its faithful servant; and I have been informed particularly, Sir, of your very worthy support of a character that has not deserved the treatment he has met with. New-Hampshire has long been celebrated for spirit; and it has now, on an extraordinary occasion, when very powerful efforts were made to debauch and to mislead, proved its title to the still higher qualities of wisdom and virtue. * * * * I shall esteem myself much honoured by your correspondence."

In a letter to him, dated Dec. 6, 1779, Hon. John Langdon says, "About a fortnight since, I received a letter from my brother, mentioning your name in high terms as a very useful member of Congress, and wishing that you might be prevailed upon to tarry through the winter; and three days since he returned home, and seems much pleased with you as a colleague. I mention this only as an agreeable circumstance in favour of the public, and your mutual good characters."

Though Colonel Peabody was never weary or faint in the

cause of his country, it seems, that early in 1780 he was desirous of resigning his seat in Congress. His affairs in New-Hampshire then required his attention, and the ill state of his health, in August and September following, must have turned his thoughts with double force on home.

February 7, 1780, he wrote to Judge Langdon—

"I was in great hopes to have been relieved by Mr. Livermore, but find I am not. Nothing but the cause of my country and the advice of my friends, among whom I have placed not a little dependence upon your opinion, could have induced me to sacrifice my interest and — by tarrying here through the winter, and I must beg your influence, that I may be relieved very early in the spring as I shall absolutely, if alive, within about eight weeks from this time at furthest."

The 18th of March, Hon. John Langdon wrote him—

"The General Court adjourns this day. The sickness and death of my father prevented my attending the session. I understand by Gen. Whipple that they have not appointed any person to relieve you, and as the court do not meet again until June next, you must go on in doing all the good you can for us, for "verily you shall have your reward." I am fully sensible that no gentleman can add to his fortune by attending Congress."

President Weare, in a letter to him of the 8th of August, observes, "I am fully sensible your absence must be very injurious to your private affairs, and your speedy return be very grateful to your friends, but the public service requires your attendance there, and you must look for your reward from the satisfaction of having done service in the important cause for which America is now contending. If you, and many others, expect any other reward here, I believe they will be much disappointed. But put a good face on it, we hope for better times." On the subject of his sickness, Gen. Greene wrote the 6th of September. "I am made very unhappy by your long and obstinate indisposition. When you left the army, we were in hopes it was only a slight touch of a fever, which a little relaxation and recess from business would soon remove. But, to our sorrow, we hear you are still persecuted with an intermitting fever, which threatens you with a still longer confinement. You have my prayers

for your speedy recovery, as well from motives of private friendship, as public good." The 27th of September, Colonel Peabody wrote General Sullivan then at Congress, "the state of my health is still such as will make it necessary for me to take a tour eastward, as soon as the report of the committee is completed, which in all probability will deprive me of a personal interview with you this season." Colonel Peabody having received at Morristown "some very favorable intelligence from the southward," and esteeming it of vast importance that the commander-in-chief should have the earliest advice of every interesting occurrence, communicated it by express to General Washington, on the 25th of October, and the General the next day replied, "I am exceedingly obliged by the very agreeable and important intelligence communicated in yours of last evening. This blow, if rightly improved, may give a total change to the southern affairs. I am glad to hear that your health has so far mended as to make you think of going abroad. It will give me great pleasure to see you at Head Quarters." Colonel Peabody was relieved by the appointment of Woodbury Langdon in his room, November 9, and no doubt, returned to New-Hampshire about that time. He did not, however, retire to "the shades of private life," for in 1781 we find him in the House of Representatives.

In 1782 and 1783, Colonel Peabody was a representative to the General Court. He was also a member of the convention to form a constitution for the State, and chairman of the committee which drew it up.

In 1784, he was a member of the House, and was elected counsellor by both branches in convention. At the October session he also acted on several committees in the House. The 14th of December, he was appointed a justice of the Court of Common Pleas, but declined the office: and the 25th, was appointed a justice of the peace and quorum, for several counties.

In 1785, he was elected a representative for his district, and a senator for Rockingham, by the people, and a counsellor by the Legislature. June 21, he was appointed a Delegate to Congress for one year, commencing the November following; but it is probable he never took his seat, as

he informed the General Court, November 3, that having good reason to expect that Mr. Long, one of the Delegates, then at Congress, would tarry, and that Mr. Langdon would accept, and take his seat by the 1st of November; he had not made the necessary arrangements for leaving the State for any considerable time; and requesting, as he should not be able to attend to his duties in Congress so early as the public affairs demanded, that some other gentleman might be appointed in his room. March 25th, he was appointed Brigadier General of the corps of Light-horsemen. This corps consisted of two regiments of six companies each, besides independent companies composed of gentlemen not liable to do duty in the train band.

In 1787, '88 and '89, he was in the House. The last year, he was commissioned by President Sullivan, a justice of the peace and quorum through the State; was chairman of a committee "to examine the laws of this State, and report whether any, and what laws of this State militate with the laws and constitution of the United States;" and was appointed, with President Sullivan, and Hon. Josiah Bartlett, to review the militia laws in the recess of the Legislature.

In 1790, he was in the Senate, and was appointed with Jeremiah Smith and John Samuel Sherburne, "a committee (as the vote expresses it) to select, revise, and arrange all the laws and public resolves of the State now in force, whether passed before or since the revolution, that the same may be compiled in one volume, and to prepare an intelligible index to be affixed thereto." This task was performed by the committee. Of the New-Hampshire Medical Society, which was incorporated at the close of this political year, General Peabody was one of the chief founders.

In 1791, he was a Senator; chairman of the committee "to report the measures necessary to be adopted to carry into effect that part of the constitution of this State directing a convention to be called, for a revision of the same;" was a member of that convention, Vice-President of it, and on most of its important committees. In June, President Wheelock, by desire of several of the Trustees of Dartmouth College, wrote to him, to solicit the honor of his presence at the approaching commencement, and saying, that they should

then be happy to show him respect. He added, "we have a particular sense of your friendship and influence in favor of the institution." They did at that commencement confer on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

In 1792, he was, as Governor Bartlett informed him, "elected senator for the county of Rockingham, by the free suffrages of the people." In 1793, he was Speaker of the House of Representatives. March 27, he was appointed Major General of the first division of militia, and resigned that office July 6, 1798. In 1795, he was a representative, and this, as far as the writer knows, was the last time he appeared in either the Legislature or Council.

His retirement may be considered voluntary, for he gave notice in the papers of the day, that he should, in future, decline all public trusts. After this long catalogue of the many important offices he had sustained, no person will wonder, that he was satisfied with the toils, and the honors, of public life. His commission as justice of the peace and quorum through the State, was, however, renewed this year, by Governor Gilman, and he continued in that office, with the exception of a year or two, in the rage of party spirit, till 1821, when a rule of the Executive, applying to justices the constitutional limitation as to the age of judges, deprived him of this little remnant of official power.

One strong reason for General Peabody's declining public appointments, was, probably, the situation of his property and finances, which, at that period, had become greatly deranged and embarrassed. In an expose of his affairs made about the year 1800, he stated, "that previous to the year 1794, his creditors were few in number—that the aggregate of their just and legal demands did not exceed 20 per cent. of the debts then due to him, including his lands and other property, at a just valuation, although he had before that time been guilty of many acts of humanity to people in distress, by means of which he had sustained considerable damage;" and imputed his embarrassment to great losses by means of suretyship, and the plunder and sale of his property through the negligence, misconduct and turpitude of his agents and supposed friends. These misfortunes resulted in his confinement for debt to the limits of the prison at Exeter,

for several of the last years of his life. His losses of necessity became the losses of his creditors, and exposed him to a full share of the blame and odium common in such cases.

General Peabody was not without foibles and faults. He was always rather vain and opinionative. At middle age he was almost passionately fond of dress and ostentatious parade, and expended large sums for such purposes. He was a fine horseman,* and in his golden days usually travelled with the most elegant horses, (of which he was a good judge, and great admirer) attended by his servant; and the people regarded him as a personage of high rank and consequence. But as imperfection is the lot of humanity, let his errors and his faults rest in oblivion; let him receive that general amnesty, which the living, conscious of their own frailties, do, in charity, freely grant to the dead.

General Peabody's natural abilities, though, by some called "airy and lofty," were nearly, if not quite, of the first order, and had he not devoted them so early to his country, might have raised him to a proud eminence in his profession. His perceptions were quick, his invention powerful, his reasoning tolerably prompt, just and perspicuous, and his memory remarkably tenacious; but he was most distinguished for his caustic wit, and resistless ridicule. These powers made him more formidable as an opponent than desirable as an ally, and it is said of him, by his contemporaries in the legislature, that though not always successful in carrying his own measures, he seldom failed in an attempt to defeat the projects of others. At the time when he was Speaker, his influence was so great, that by means of three or four of his associates, he ruled the State; and letters from some of the first men, who flourished at that period, show the high value which was placed on his friendship. His disposition was rather hasty, yet he could bend his will to his purposes, and regulate his passions to his views. His stock of general knowledge was quite reputable. Of national politics his views were liberal, accurate, and often original. From his knowledge of human nature, and the selfish policy of nations,

*In a sportive advertisement, which Gen. Schuyler sent to Gov. Matthews and Gen. Peabody, who had been a few days absent from Head Quarters, he described them as "commonly dressed in green coats, booted and spurred."

he foresaw approaching danger, and raised his warning voice. His leaning was always decidedly in favor of popular rights. In his politics, he was a republican, and he firmly adhered to that party.

In early life, General Peabody was a good Physician, and practised with success, and general applause; in his latter days he far excelled any tyro, or young medical practitioner, however learned, both in experience, and the judicious selection and application of remedies. He continued to administer to the health of others till he could no longer help himself. Patients came to him from distant parts, and he cured or alleviated many difficult chronic cases beyond the skill of his younger contemporaries. His manner, as well as his application was always pleasing, and his wit and humor made him popular. About a year before he died, a young girl was brought to him troubled with a humour or glandular swelling in her neck: the anxious mother dreaded the scrofula, which she called by the ancient name of King's Evil. She asked him if it was not the king's evil, and feared he would answer in the affirmative. The General replied, "king's evil, king's evil! I know of none who have the king's evil, but *tories*." This answer excited a laugh, dispelled her fears, and produced a good effect. Many such witticisms were interspersed through his whole life, which, if collected, would make his biography very entertaining. Many sayings, infinitely more witty than this, are within the knowledge of the writer, but to record them would surpass the limits of this sketch.

General Peabody had a taste for the science of law, and this, together with considerable discrimination and critical acumen, no doubt, served to make him, as he certainly was, an able and leading legislator. He wrote a fair easy hand, and long experience rendered him a safe and skillful draftsman. In his habits he was regular and correct; he ate and drank but little, and that of the best; seldom slept more than four or five hours, often not over two, and those the latter part of the night. A very respectable and intelligent gentleman, to whom the writer is indebted for many of the views and expressions contained in this notice, remarks, "I have had some acquaintance with the late General Peabody, about

forty years, and I always considered him a cheerful, sociable, witty and friendly man. He was generous, noble spirited and honorable."

In his friendships, General Peabody was generous, sincere and constant; never deserting his friends in the hour of need. The unjust treatment General Sullivan received from Congress in the revolution, is matter of history, and it is but just, that the character of General Peabody should be honored with the following tribute from a man so universally esteemed, and respected, as his friend General Sullivan. "I am much indebted for the part you have ever taken respecting me, and the opinion you have been pleased to form of my public conduct, and hope no future transaction of my life will compel you to alter your sentiments." Just after this, General Peabody wrote him, "I am now going to head quarters, and thence shall proceed to New-Hampshire, and shall be happy to have it in my power to serve you in person or estate. If you think of a single act wherein I can be beneficial to either, you will please to command," &c.

He was a patron of enterprise and merit, and several young men were indebted to him for liberal educations, and their subsequent prosperity. A mind like General Peabody's was calculated for great changes in popularity and fortune. This was verified in his biography; great and sudden variations in his ambitious schemes, variegated his walk through this stage of existence. These changes in early life served to steel his mind against vicissitudes, and made him a more able general in avoiding or recovering from them. They did not, however, sour his temper, and cloud his intellect. He endeavored to enjoy life himself, and, by his pleasantry, make his friends happy. His mental powers were but little impaired by age. The anguish of sickness and disease he bore with fortitude, and was rarely heard to complain, till attacked with that complication of most excruciating disorders, which, after two or three weeks, terminated his earthly career on Saturday, June 27, 1823.

On a candid review of all the transactions and peculiar circumstances of General Peabody's long life, from his cradle to his grave, we are impelled to the conclusion, that he was an useful citizen, an enlightened politician, and in times of

trial and danger, as well as in the halcyon days of peace and prosperity, a firm and ardent friend to his country. When the waves of time shall have rolled over the present generation, and washed away the last trace of prejudice and enmity from his character, who will venture to predict, that he will not be placed by grateful posterity in the bright and glorious constellation of revolutionary worthies, and with his compatriots and friends, the illustrious Weare, Bartlett, Sullivan, and Langdon; Lee, Laurens, Greene, Matthews, Gerry, and Schuyler, shine with unclouded lustre, through long ages of American freedom and glory?

TOPSFIELD IN 1828.

FROM SPOFFORD'S GAZETTEER, NEWBURYPORT, 1828.

"Topsfield, post-town, Essex co. 21 miles north east of Boston. Incor. Oct. 18, 1650, and contains 866 inhabitants. Bounded N. E., by Ipswich, N. W. by Boxford, E. by Hamilton, S. E. by Wenham, S. W. by Danvers. This is a handsome and pleasant town. The surface is undulating, rising into large swells and sinking into deep vallies. Ipswich river at this place, a stream several rods in width, and bordered with rich intervals and fine meadows, occupies the principal valley. The Newburyport turnpike passes this town half a mile south east of the meeting house. It passes over some of the largest hills in the town, and is little travelled. There is also a large road from Haverhill to Salem through the centre of the town; on each of these roads a stage passes daily. Over Ipswich river on the turnpike, is an expensive bridge, elevated on stone abutments, 30 feet above the river; on the old road just above is another bridge, 70 or 80 feet in length. An academy was opened here May 7, 1828, and has about 30 students, under the care of Mr. Francis Vose, A. M. There is a handsome congregational meeting house, situated on a fine and level common, around which are several handsome dwelling houses. The people here are mostly supported by farming. There are several

mechanics, and shoes are made for foreign markets. The farm houses and buildings are good, and there are two or three handsome country seats in this town."

TOPSFIELD IN 1836.

FROM NEWHALL'S ESSEX MEMORIAL, SALEM, 1836.

"Topsfield affords every inducement for the devotee of rural life to pitch his tent within its borders; the landscape, however, presents few striking features to aid the conjurations of the romancer. The soil is good, and the inhabitants receive their chief support from agriculture. Ipswich river crosses the town, and passes for a long distance along the border, having upon its margin some rich interval and fine meadows. Newburyport turnpike passes a short distance southeast of the meetinghouse.

The population in 1810 was 815; in 1820, 866; in 1830, 1,011. Ratable Polls, 250.

Town Clerk—Jacob Towne.

Town Treasurer—Joel Lake.

Selectmen—Jacob Towne, David Towne, William Hubbard, Samuel Bradstreet, William Cummins.

Physicians.—Nehemiah Cleaveland, R. A. Merriam, Jeremiah Stone.

Justice of the Peace and Quorum.—Nehemiah Cleaveland.

Justices of the Peace.—Jacob Towne, Benjamin C. Perkins, R. A. Merriam, Alfred W. Pike.

Postmaster.—Nehemiah Cleaveland.

The *Orthodox Congregational Church* was formed Nov. 1663; but there was preaching here as early as 1643.

There is also a Methodist society here, formed in 1830. They have been without a stated preacher much of the present season.

Topsfield Academy.—This institution is in a flourishing condition. Pupils, about 35. *Preceptor*, A. W. Pike.

The number of School Districts is 4. Number of scholars between the ages of 4 and 16, 200. School tax \$500. About \$650 are paid annually for instruction in Academies, &c.

Military.—One company of infantry of the line. *Captain*, E. S. Bixby. *Lieutenant*, L. H. Gould. *Ensign*, H. Wildes, Jr.

Social Library.—This library was organized in 1794. Number of volumes, 200.

Stages.—Several stages pass through the town daily for Boston, and other places.

Alms House.—Keeper, Thomas Gould. Number of subjects, 11.

Public Houses.—There are two public houses, one kept by Mrs. Susan Cummins, the other by John Rea.

Manufacture.—Shoemaking is the principal business of the town, with the exception of farming.

Stores.—There are three stores—dry goods and groceries.

Dwellings.—There are 125 dwellings.

Valuation.—The State valuation was in 1811, \$195,580 67. In 1821, \$341,853 33. In 1831, \$361,022 08.

Post Office.—The post office yields to government about \$50.

Territory.—The whole township contains 7828 acres."

DELINQUENT TAX-PAYERS IN 1663.

Here is the names of those that have not payed to the Towne charges, the building the Meeting House and ministers house and other Towne charges.

Topsfield 19th 12^{mo} 1663.

Tho Avery	9:0	Thomas Fiske	} Bass
Mr Bradstreet	2:03:6	Mr Charles Gote	
Francis Bates	8:10	Richard Kimball	} River 3:19:0
Anthoone Carell	15:0	Richard Kimball	
Samuel Cuttler	3:06:0	Thomas Putnam	2:8
Mr Endicott (Govr)	3:02:0	Nathaniel "	7:6
Tho Hobes	3:03:0	John "	10:0
John How	15:0	Farmer (John) Porter	4:0
Mr William Perkins	2:09:4	Samuel Perley	} 2:02:6
Luke Wakely	10:0	Thomas "	
James Waters	6:8	John Poland	2:10:0
Goodman Blacke Sr	2:0	William Rainment	2:0
Zacheus Curtis	1:10:0	Joseph Rootes	2:0
Mr Hubard	2:0	Robard Smith	1:0:0

John Gould in the name of the Selectmen.

THE UNITED STATES DIRECT TAX OF 1798,
AS ASSESSED ON TOPSFIELD.

COPIED BY HARRIET S. TAPLEY.

The returns made for Topsfield, in accordance with the law imposing a Direct Tax, which was levied by the United States government in 1798, contain a variety of statistical information, valuable alike to the historian and genealogist.

The originals are now in the custody of the New England Historic Genealogical Society of Boston, and were compiled on Oct. 1, 1798, by the following committee, which was appointed for the district of Topsfield, Danvers and Middleton:

Samuel Page, Principal Assessor.		
Joseph Osborn, jr., Assistant Assessor.		
Daniel Putnam,	"	"
Eleazer Putnam,	"	"
Nathaniel Hammond,	"	"
Daniel Fuller,	"	"

ACKLEY, JOSEPH, of Reading, Vt., owner, Asa Foster, occupant. Meadow, W. on great brook, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$32.50. Pasture, N., on heirs of Abraham Foster, 3 a., 139 p., value, \$65.

ACKLEY, JOSEPH, of Reading, Vt., owner, Thomas Emery, occupant. Tillage and pasture, E. on road, 27 a., 60 p., value, \$412; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn, 26x28, value, \$40.

ANDREWS, DOROTHY, AS DOWER, AND JOSEPH, owners. Widow Dorothy, Ephraim, and Joseph Andrews, occupants. S. by County road. Wooden dwelling.

NOTE:—p. is an abbreviation for pole; i.e. a rod.

Land, 80 p.; house, 860 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 59 sq. ft. glass; value, \$290.

ANDREWS, WIDOW DOROTHY, occupant and owner. Tillage, N. W. by Moses Wildes, N. E. by Ephraim Wildes and heirs of Elisha Wildes, S. E. by Ephraim Andrews, 8 a., value, \$200, $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 28x28, included. Tillage, N. E. by road, 1 a., value, \$22. Sheep pasture, 4 a., value, \$64. Brook meadow, S. W. by brook, 2 a., value, \$28. River meadow, N. E. by river, 2 a., value, \$38. Lot in Bunker's meadow, N. W. by David Perkins, 1 a., value, \$15. Hassocky meadow, 2 a., value, \$24.

ANDREWS, EPHRAIM, occupant and owner. Tillage, N. W. by Moses Wildes; $\frac{1}{2}$ corn barn, 15x22; 3 a., 40 p., value, \$75. Pasture, N. W. by Ephraim Wildes, 120 p., value, \$13.50. Same, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$27. Brook meadow, W. by brook, 120 p., value, \$12. Bunker's meadow, 1 a., value, \$15. Hassocky meadow, 120 p., value, \$9.

ALDREWS, JACOB, of Boxford, occupant and owner. Meadow bought of Joseph Gould, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$25.50.

ANDREWS, JOSEPH, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by road, N. by Moses Wildes and Ephraim Andrews, N. E. and E. by Widow Dorothy Andrews and Ephraim Andrews; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 28x28; barn 20x16; $\frac{1}{2}$ corn barn 15x22; 12 a., 80 p., value, \$242.50. Pasture, N. E. by road, S. E. by Widow Dorothy Andrews and heirs of Elisha Wildes and Jacob Towne, S. W. by Jacob Towne, N. W. by Thomas Emerson, 10 a., 100 p., value, \$160. Brook meadow, S. W. by brook, 3 a., value, \$42. Hassocky meadow, 4 a., 80 p., value, \$56. Another of same, 3 a., 80 p., value, \$43.50. Maple swamp lot, 3 a., value, \$57.

AVERELL, DANIEL, AND DANIEL, JR., AND SOLOMON, occupants and owners. Farm, S. W. by brook and Elisha Perkins, N. W. by road, N. E. by Isaac Averell and others, S. E. by Nathaniel Averell, 34 a., value, \$325. Old house, 40x20, value, \$80. East half of house. $\frac{1}{2}$ barn, the third being 11x28, value, \$20. River meadow and upland, E. by Ipswich river, 16 a., value, \$214. Tillage and mowing land, S. and W. by Jacob Averell, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$30. Meadow and upland, called Point of Ridge, 1 a., value, \$9.

AVERELL, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. on County road, E. on Thomas Perkins, jr., S. and W. by his other land.

Land, 80 p.; house, 837 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 56 sq. ft. glass; value, \$220.

AVERELL, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Zaccheus Gould, W. by John Gould and Rev. Asahel Huntington, N. by Thomas Emerson and County road, E. by his house lot; barn 30x28; 48 a., 120 p., value, \$659. River meadow, E. by Ipswich river, 2 a., value, \$38. Woodland on Averell's Island, S. by Isaac Averell, 2 a., value, \$26.

AVERELL, ISAAC, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides on his other land.

Land, 80 p.; house, 1064 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 16 windows; 105 sq. ft. glass; value, \$220.

AVERELL, ISAAC, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Jacob Averell and others, W. by heirs of Joseph Andrews, N. by Daniel Boardman, Daniel Towne, and Asa Perkins, E. by Abraham Hobbs and others; barn 60x30; cornbarn 16x14; 119 a., 80 p., value, \$1275. Woodland and meadow, E. by Ipswich river, S. by brook, 24 a., value, \$425. Hill pasture, 16 a., value, \$294.

AVERELL, JACOB, occupant and owner. Farm, N. E. by Isaac Averell, S. E. by John Baker and others, S. W. by Nathaniel Averell and others, N. W. by land set off to Widow Priscilla Averell, 14 a., value, \$167. West $\frac{1}{2}$ of old house, \$12, including $\frac{2}{3}$ barn, 23x28. Tract of Hassocky meadow, 7 a., 120 p., value, \$90.50. River meadow, E. by Ipswich river, 1 a., value, \$19. Woodland at Averell's Island, 1 a., value, \$13.

AVERELL, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by my other land.

Land, 80 p.; house, 1216 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 49 sq. ft. glass; value, \$220.

AVERELL, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, N. W. by Moses Bradstreet and heirs of Jacob Averell, and by Joseph Averell, N. E. by Joseph Averell and others, S. E. by Samuel Bradstreet, S. W. by Robert Perkins, jr., and Solomon Dodge; barn 54x24; shop 18x15; 63 a., 80 p., value, \$687. River meadow, E. by Ipswich river, 4 a., 80 p., value,

\$83. Another lot of same, 2 a., value, \$38. Hassocky meadow, 4 a., value, \$52. Another lot of same, 2 a., value, \$26. Woodland on Averell's Island, 6 a., 80 p., value, \$52.

AVERELL, NATHANIEL PERKINS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides on my other land.

Land, 80 p.; house 800 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 9 windows; 31 sq. ft. glass; value, \$120.

AVERELL, NATHANIEL PERKINS, occupant and owner. Farm, W. by Pye brook, N. W. by Ephraim and Joseph Dorman, E. by Jacob Symonds and Ezekiel Potter, jr., S. by Jacob Symonds; barn 52x30; 93 a., value, \$1350.

AVERELL, WIDOW SARAH, occupant and owner. Meadow and upland, S. W. by Sarah Clarke, N. W. by County road, 7 a., 80 p., value, \$200.

BAKER, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. E. by County road and on all other sides by my other land.

Land, 80 p.; house, 962 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 25 windows; 212 sq. ft. glass; value \$420.

BAKER, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, S. W. by Thomas Perkins, jr., N. W. by Samuel Hood, N. E. by Samuel Hood and Nehemiah Cleaveland, 12 a., 80 p., value, \$450, including barn 51x27, and barn 30x18, shop 12x10. Hill pasture, 16 a., value, \$400. Hassocky meadow, 4 a., value, \$54. Another lot of same, 4 a., value, \$54.

BALCH, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. E. on County road, S. E. and S. W. on John Dwinell and John Rea, N. W. on John Peabody.

Land 80 p.; house 700 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 68 sq. ft. glass; value, \$250.

BALCH, DAVID, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. and W. by County road.

Land 80 p.; house 844 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 16 windows; 67 sq. ft. glass; value, \$280.

BALCH, DAVID, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by County road, N. W. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, N. E. by Joshua Balch, S. E. by Zebulon Perkins and John Balch, S. W. by Joseph Cree; barn 53x23; 14 a., 80 p., value, \$352. Tillage and pasture, N. E. on County road, 10 a., value, \$170. River pasture, 15 a., value, \$255.

BALCH, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, S. on road, W. on Roger Balch, N. on heirs of Asa Bradstreet, E. on Roger Balch; barn 64x28; shop; 80 a., value, \$125. Hill pasture, 18 a., value, \$330. Rea pasture, 9 a., value, \$162. Tillage and pasture, E. and S. on heirs of Asa Bradstreet, 24 a., value, \$432. Tan pit orchard, 3 a., value, \$69. Tillage and meadow, S. E. and S. W. on road, N. W. on Joseph Cree, 10 a., value, \$230.

BALCH, JOSHUA, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by road, N. W. by house lot and Thomas Balch, N. E. by David Balch, S. E. by Balch; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 27x28; 4 a., 120 p., value, \$166. River meadow, N. E. by Ipswich river, 5 a., value, \$90. Bixby pasture, 16 a., 80 p., value, \$272. Meadow and upland, N. W. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, and N. E. by Thomas Balch, 7 a., value, \$154.

BALCH, ROGER AND JOHN, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling, S. on County road.

Land, 80 p.; house 1352 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 28 windows; 280 sq. ft. glass; value, \$620.

BALCH, ROGER, occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. on County road, S. W. by road, W., N. and N. E., on heirs of Asa Bradstreet; barn 54x24; 3 a., 80 p., value, \$140. Tillage, S. E. on John Bradstreet, jr., 4 a., value, \$100. Pasture called tan pit, 10 a., value, \$180. Tillage and pasture said Balch bought of Henry Bradstreet, 16 a., value, \$272. Plain meadow, 2 a., value, \$44. Orchard, S. E. on County road, 80 p., value, \$25. Tillage, pasture and mowing land, Hill farm, 30 a., value, \$750, including $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 26x28. River meadow, N. E. on Ipswich river, 6 a., value, \$100.

BALCH, ROGER AND JOHN, occupants, Samuel Balch, owner. Pasture, E. on Phineas Putnam and others, 15 a., value, \$270.

BALCH, ROGER, and Daniel Perkins, jr., owners. Dominick Moore, occupant. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 856 sq. ft.; 1 story; 15 windows; 48 sq. ft. glass; value, \$130.

BALCH, SAMUEL, owner. David Perkins, jr., and John Bradstreet, jr., occupants. Tillage and pasture, E. on Daniel Esty and others, 16 a., value, \$320.

BALCH, THOMAS AND JOSHUA, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. S. W. by road and on all other sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; woodhouse 266 sq. ft.; woodhouse 168 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 19 windows; 91 sq. ft. glass; value, \$300.

BALCH, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by Ipswich river, N. W. by Henry Bradstreet and Joseph Cree, and N. E. by David Balch, S. E. by Joshua Balch; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 39 x 28; tan house 20 x 12; 4 a., 120 p., value, \$214. River meadow, N. E. by Ipswich river, 5 a., value, \$90. Tarbox pasture, 20 a., value, \$360. Little pasture, 5 a., value, \$90. Meadow and upland, N. W. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, 7 a., value, \$154.

BATCHELDER, AMOS, of Wenham, occupant and owner. River meadow, N. W. on Ipswich river, 4 a., value, \$80.

BATCHELDER, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling, S. by mill pond and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1408 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 61 sq. ft. glass; value, \$125.

BATCHELDER, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by mill brook, N. W. by County road, S. and E. by Nathaniel Foster, S. E. by Jacob Peabody; barn 50 x 28; 69 a., 80 p., value, \$1100.

BATCHELDER, JOHN, JR., AND JOSEPH, occupants and owners. Bounded on all sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 19 windows; 97 sq. ft. glass; value, \$400.

BATCHELDER, JOHN, JR., AND JOSEPH, occupants and owners. Farm, N. W. and N. E. by brook, E. and S. by County road and John Merriam, W. by same; barn 70 x 30; 109 a., 80 p., value, \$1650.

BIXBY, BENJ., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by County road and on all other sides on my other land.

Land 80 p.; house 916 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 63 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

BIXBY, BENJ., occupant and owner. Farm, S. by brook, W. by road, N. by Boxford line, E. by John Hood, 62 a., value, \$739, including barn 50 x 28. Pasture, N. E. by Pritchard's pond, 5 a., value, \$25.

BIXBY, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; outhouse 200 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 27 windows; 187 sq. ft. glass; value, \$700.

BIXBY, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on County road, S. by Thomas Emerson and others, W. by Benj. Pike and Elijah Gould, N. on Ipswich river, N. E. by John Balch and others; barn 72x28; cider mill house 41x32; 116 a., 80 p., value, \$2679.50. Corn barn 13x20. Hartland meadow, 8 a., value, \$160. Sticky meadow, 4 a., value, \$72. Another lot in same, 2 a., value, \$30.

BRADSTREET, ASA, heirs, owners. Daniel Perkins, jr., occupant. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 900 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 12 windows; 60 sq. ft. glass; value, \$130.

BRADSTREET, ASA, heirs, owners. Daniel Perkins, jr., occupant. Farm, E. on Roger Balch and John Balch, S. on County road, W. on Daniel Bixby, N. on John Balch and Thomas Balch and others; barn 51x28; 21 a., 133 p., value, \$470. River meadow, N. W. on road, 2 a., 120 p., value, \$65. Sticky meadow, 2 a., value, \$36. Schoolhouse pasture, 4 a., value, \$68. Pasture, E. on Elijah Gould, 9 a., value, \$117.

BRADSTREET, DUDLEY. Barn 112x26; corn barn 28x20; 87 a., 80 p., value, \$2210. River meadow, N. by John Bradstreet and Solomon Dodge, E. by Billy Emerson, 14 a., value, \$280. Woodlot on Pine Island, 6 a., value, \$100.

BRADSTREET, HENRY, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 684 sq. ft.; 1 story; 10 windows; 33 sq. ft., glass; value, \$130.

BRADSTREET, HENRY, occupant and owner. Farm, N. W. by Eleazer Lake and Robert Lake, N. E. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, S. E. by Nehemiah Cleaveland and Thomas Balch, S. W. by Ipswich river; barn 50x26; 39 a., 80 p., value, \$948. Pasture, W. by County road, N. by David Cummings, 4 a., 40 p., value, \$96.50.

BRADSTREET, JOHN AND DUDLEY, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides on said Bradstreets' other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1030 sq. ft.; woodhouse 435 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 19 windows; 93 sq. ft. glass; value, \$290.

BRADSTREET, JOHN AND DUDLEY, occupants and owners. Farm, S. on Ipswich river and Samuel Bradstreet, W. by Samuel Bradstreet, N. by brook, E. by Robert and Amos Perkins; barn 62x30; 67 a., 80 p., value, \$1321. Woodlot on Pine Island, 3 a., 136 p., value, \$50.

BRADSTREET, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. W. by road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 924 sq. ft.; 1 story; 18 windows; 104 sq. ft. glass; value, \$300.

BRADSTREET, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, N. E. and S. E. on County road, S. W. on Ipswich river, N. W. by Thomas Balch and Roger Balch; barn 42x28; 14 a., 80 p., value, \$430. Pasture, E. by Ipswich river, 16 a., value, \$288. Pasture, N. W. by road, 5 a., value, \$65. River meadow, N. and E. by Samuel Bradstreet, 4 a., value, \$80.

BRADSTREET, MOSES, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1178 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 18 windows; 99 sq. ft. glass; value, \$250.

BRADSTREET, MOSES, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Nathaniel Averell, S. W. and W. by Solomon Dodge, Moses Wildes, and heirs of Elisha Wildes, N. by Ephraim Wildes, E. by Solomon Dodge, and brook; barn 55x28; 95 a., 80 p., value, \$909. Hill pasture, 11 a., value \$198.

BRADSTREET, SAMUEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 234 sq. ft. glass; value, \$480.

BRADSTREET, SAMUEL, occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. by Ipswich river, S. W. by Nathaniel Hammond and others, N. W. by Robert Perkins, jr., and Nathaniel Averell.

BRICKETT, DEBORAH, HEIRS OF, of Haverhill, owners. Asa Foster, occupant. Pasture, N. on road, 6 a., 80 p., value, \$110.50.

BRICKETT, DEBORAH, HEIRS OF, of Haverhill, owners. Joseph Cree, occupant. Meadow, W. on great brook, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$35.

BOARDMAN, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. on a road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 984 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 17 windows; 71 sq. ft. glass; value, \$250.

BOARDMAN, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, N. W. and N. by Jacob Peabody and County road, N. E. by Daniel Towne, Asa Perkins, and Isaac Averell, S. E. by Isaac Averell and Joseph Andrews, S. by mill brook and road; old barn 62x28; barn 28x20. Tillage, pasture and mowing he bought of Oliver Perkins; barn 40x26; 30 a., value, \$660.

BROWN, EBENEZER, of Danvers, owner. Cornelius Cree, occupant. Wooden dwelling. N. by County road, and on all other sides on Brown's land. Land 80 p.; house 750 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 11 windows; 47 sq. ft. glass; value, 120.

BROWN, EBENEZER, of Danvers, owner. Cornelius Cree, occupant. Farm, N. on road, E. on Thomas Tenney and others, 21 a., 80 p., value, \$340, including barn 32x24.

BROWN, OLIVER, of Boxford, occupant and owner. Meadow, S. on road, 2 a., 120 p., value, \$37.50. Pasture, N. by road, 25 a., value, \$200.

BROWN, STEPHEN, of Ipswich, occupant and owner. Woodland, N. by Josiah Lamson, 2 a., value, \$18.

CLARK, JACOB, occupant and owner. Pasture, S. E. by Ipswich river; 17 a., value, \$140.

CLARKE, ANNA, owner, heirs of Moses Averell, occupants. Pasture, S. E. by County road, S. W. by Israel Clarke; 17 a., value, \$260.

CLARKE, ISRAEL, occupant and owner. Tillage and mowing, S. by Benj. Hobbs, W. by mill pond, N. by Widow Ruth Clarke, E. by Anna Clarke and Samuel Clarke; 2 a., value, \$170. $\frac{2}{3}$ of old house; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ x28; tan house and yard 25x25, value, \$20.

CLARKE, WIDOW RUTH, occupant and owner. Tillage and mowing, S. E. by Israel Clarke, S. W. by mill brook, N. W. by Daniel Perkins, N. E. by Daniel Perkins and Anna Clarke; 8 a., value, \$176. $\frac{1}{3}$ old house; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn, value, \$10. Plains hill pasture, 31 a., value, \$440. River meadow, N. W. by County road; 3 a., value, \$60.

CLARKE, SAMUEL, minor, and son to Israel, deceased, owner, Asa Perkins, occupant. Tillage, N. W. by County road, N. E. by Widow Ruth Clarke; 7 a., 80 p., value, \$200.

CLEAVELAND, NEHEMIAH, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. E. on County road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1530 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 39 windows; 235 sq. ft. glass; value, \$650.

CLEAVELAND, NEHEMIAH, occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. by Nathaniel Hammond and others, S. W. by road and Henry Bradstreet, N. W. by Henry Bradstreet and others and County road, N. E. by Thomas Emerson and Jacob Towne; barn 40x38; barn 54x24; shop 30x15; 63 a., 80 p., value, \$1460.50. Small one story house, value, \$55.

CONANT, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. on highway, on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1042 sq. ft.; 1 story; 15 windows; 76 sq. ft. glass; value, \$150.

CONANT, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, E. and S. on Jacob Towne, jr., W. and N. on Nathaniel Fiske. Barn 32x28; 4 a., 80 p., value, \$120. Tillage and pasture, E. on road; 7 a., value \$140.

CONANT, JOHN, JR., *see also* Peabody, John.

CONANT, MOSES, of Topsfield, occupant and owner. Woodland, S. on Dudley Wildes; 6 a., value, \$60.

CREE, CORNELIUS, *see* Brickett, Deborah.

CREE, JOSEPH, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. and W. by County road, N. E. and E. by David Balch and John Balch, S. E. by John Balch; 9 a., value, \$180. Small house, 1 story, value, \$50. Mowing land he bought of Cornelius Cree, 4 a., value, \$96.

CREE, JOSEPH, *see also* Brickett, Deborah.

CREE, WIDOW MARTHA, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. by County road, S. on Daniel Balch, W. and N. by Cree's other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 65 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

CREE, MARTHA, owner, Widow Martha Cree and Joseph Cree occupants. Farm, N. E. by County road, S. E. by David Balch, S. W. by David Balch, Joseph Cree and Nehemiah

Cleaveland, N. W. by Nehemiah Cleaveland; barn 50x28; 14 a., 80 p., value, \$290. Pasture, called the lot, 5 a., 80 p., value, \$93.50. Plains meadow, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$33.

CREE, STEPHEN, *see* Emerson, Thomas.

CUMMINGS, DAVID, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides on my other land.

Land 80 p.; house 2254 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 37 windows; 215 sq. ft. glass; value, \$700.

CUMMINGS, DAVID, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by County road, N. W. by Betty Towne and Lydia Towne, and County road, N. E. by Ephraim Towne and others, S. E. by Samuel and Elijah Perkins and others; barn 96x30; corn barn and cider house 34x24; shop 14x14; 161 a., 80 p., value, \$35.53. Meadow, S. by brook, 4 a., value, \$60. Meadow in Danvers, S. by Joseph Dale; 2 a., value, \$70. Woodland in Middleton, S. by Elias Wilkins; 5 a., value, \$100. Same, S. by Richard Thomas; 4 a., value, \$72.

CUMMINGS, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. by a road, and on all other parts by Joseph Cummings.

Land, 16 p.; house 780 sq. ft.; 1 story; 10 windows; 63 sq. ft. glass; value, \$130.

CUMMINGS, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Farm, W. by road, N. by Thomas Cummings, E. by Joseph Cummings and others, S. and S. W. by Joseph Cummings; barn 36x30; 20 a., value, \$360. Upland and meadow he bought of Pelatiah Cummings; 22 a., value, \$340.

CUMMINGS, JONAS, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by Thomas Cummings, E. by Josiah Lamson, Joseph Goodhue, and Jude Goodhue, S. and W. by road; 30 a., value, \$720. Small house, 1 story; part of old barn 30x26; shop 11x9; value, \$60.

CUMMINGS, JONATHAN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. and N. by a road, E. and S. by Joseph Cummings.

Land 4 p.; house 640 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 8 windows; 55 sq. ft. glass, value, \$120.

CUMMINGS, JONATHAN, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Ipswich river and Joseph Cummings, N. by Thomas Cummings, E. by Joseph Cummings, S. E. by Joseph Cummings and Elijah Cummings; barn 36x30; 40 a., value, \$717.

CUMMINGS, JOSEPH, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. by a road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1692 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 60 sq. ft. glass; value, \$200.

CUMMINGS, JOSEPH, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by Elijah Cummings, E. by Reuben Smith, S. by Edw. Lamson and Reuben Smith, W. by road and Jonathan Cummings, N. W. by Thomas Cummings; barn 54x28; corn barn and cider house 36x13; 50 a., 80 p., value, \$940. Upland and meadow, W. by Ipswich river; 20 a., value, \$400. Vinson's meadow, 6 a., value, \$60.

CUMMINGS, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. on highway and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 27 windows; 180 sq. ft. glass; value, \$580.

CUMMINGS, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Joseph Cummings, W. by Ipswich river, N. by Joseph Lamson and Jonas Cummings, E. by Jonas Cummings and John Goodhue; barn 40x30; part of old barn 26x26; cider house 24x14; corn barn 16x14; 83 a., 80 p., value, \$1900. River meadow, E. by Elijah Cummings; 12 a., value, \$240.

DEXTER, RICHARD, HEIRS, owners, Widow Mehitable Dexter and John Butman, occupants. Wooden dwelling. S. by County road and on all other parts on the heirs land.

Land 80 p.; house 675 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 78 sq. ft. glass; value, \$320.

DEXTER, RICHARD, HEIRS, owners, Widow Mehitable Dexter and John Butman, occupants. Farm, S. W. on County road, N. W. on town road and by John Bradstreet, jr., E. by brook, S. by Jacob Kimball and others; barn 48x28; cider mill 29x21; 31 a., 80 p., value, \$750. Plain meadow; 2 a., value, \$44. Meadow and pasture, N. E. on Ipswich [river]; 30 a., value, \$690. Cow pasture, 12 a., value, \$216. Pasture, W. on John Balch, 5 a., value, \$85.

DODGE, JONATHAN, of Beverly, occupant and owner. Meadow, N. W. on Ipswich river; 5 a., value, \$100.

DODGE, JOHN, of Beverly, occupant and owner. Meadow, N. W. on Ipswich river; 5 a., value, \$100.

DODGE, SOLOMON, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. W. by road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1092 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 150 sq. ft. glass; value, \$600.

DODGE, SOLOMON, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by Moses Bradstreet and Nathaniel Averell, S. by Robert Perkins, jr., and Zebulon and Elisha Perkins, W. by Jacob Towne, N. by Moses Bradstreet and Moses Wildes; barn 63x30; 66 a., value, \$1320, including corn barn 20x16; cider mill 29x20. River meadow, W. on John Bradstreet; 8 a., value, \$160. Brook meadow, W. on Ephraim Wildes; 3 a., value, \$48.

DORMAN, EPHRAIM AND JOSEPH, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. N. by road and on all other sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 940 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 11 windows; 55 sq. ft. glass; value, \$180.

DORMAN, EPHRAIM AND JOSEPH, occupants and owners. Farm, W. by Thomas Emerson and County road, N. by Pritchard's pond, E. by Ezekiel Potter, Ipswich line and Nathaniel Foster, S. by Nathaniel Foster and others, and brook; barn 63x26; 197 a., 40 p., value, \$3650.75. Bunker's meadow; 2 a., 40 p., value, \$40.50.

DWINELL, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. on County road, and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 760 sq. ft.; chaise house 195 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 15 windows; 66 sq. ft. glass; value, \$260.

DWINELL, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on Richard Hood, Nathaniel Fiske and others, S. W. on John Rea, N. on John Peabody; barn 46x30; old barn 36x19; 62 a., value, \$1488. Lot in Strap meadow, Danvers; 2 a., 80 p., value, \$27.50.

DWINELL, JOHN, AND JOHN REA, occupants and owners. Tillage, meadow and pasture they bought of John Lamson; barn 40x28; 22 a., value, \$550.

EMERSON, BILLY, occupant and owner. Woodland, W. by Reuben Smith; 4 a., 80 p., value, \$90. River meadow, W. by Samuel Bradstreet; 5 a., 80 p., value, \$100.

EMERSON, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by Common, W. by County road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1211 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 21 windows; 100 sq. ft. glass; value, \$350.

Wooden dwelling. W. by County road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 486 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 7 windows; 25 sq. ft. glass; value, \$110.

EMERSON, THOMAS, owner. William Moneys, jr., occupant. Wooden dwelling. N. E. by parsonage, S. E. and S. by County road, N. W. and N. by Emerson.

Land 2 a.; house 560 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 3 windows; 10 sq. ft. glass; value, \$150.

EMERSON, THOMAS, owner. John LeFavour and Stephen Cree, occupants. Wooden dwelling. W. by road and on all other sides on Emerson's land.

Land 40 p.; house 699 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 66 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

EMERSON, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. and S. by Common, W. by parsonage land and County road, N. E. by Jacob Symonds and others, S. E. by Jacob Towne and Nehemiah Cleaveland, S. W. by Nehemiah Cleaveland and Jacob Kimball; barn 80x30; barn 40x38; barn 36x26; barn 25x26; cider mill 30x26; shop 20x18; 73 a., 80 p., value, \$2367. Old house, 1 story, value, \$80. Clarke's and Gould's pasture; 53 a., value, \$400. Averell's pasture, 12 a., value, \$180. Bunker's meadow, 3 a., value, \$45. Same, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$27. Same, which he bought of John Peabody, 2 a., 40 p., value, \$40.50. Same, which he bought of John Balch, 2 a., 40 p., value, \$40.50. Plains meadow, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$33. Same, 12 a., value, \$264. Meadow by Rowley bridge, 3 a., value, \$54. Meadow in common with Daniel Gould, N. by river; 5 a., value \$36. Pasture, S. by Daniel Estey; 25 a., value, \$425. Mowing and pasture, called Towne's field, he bought of David Balch; 16 a., value, \$400. Farm called Adams farm, S. and W. by brook, N. by Hovey farm and road, E. by Ephraim and Joseph Dorman; barn 27x35; 69 a., 80 p., value, \$666.50.

EMERSON, THOMAS, owner. Ivory Hovey, occupant. Farm, S. and W. by brook, N. by road and Pritchard's pond; 60 a., value, \$625. Old house 40x26; barn 39x28; value, \$70.

EMERY, THOMAS, *see* Ackley, Joseph.

ESTEY, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. on Roger Balch and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 875 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 20 windows; 100 sq. ft. glass; value, \$350.

ESTEY, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on Martha Cree, S. on John Rea and others, S. W. on Thomas Emerson, W. on Rufus Putnam and others, N. on Samuel Balch and others; barn 62x26; 99 a., 80 p., value, \$2300.

FISKE, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. on road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 908 sq. ft.; woodhouse 176 sq. ft.; 1 story; 14 windows; 53 sq. ft. glass; value, \$140.

FOSTER, ABRAHAM, of Salem, occupant and owner. Tillage and pasture, N. by Daniel Bixby; 10 a., 20 p., value, \$72.

FOSTER, AMOS, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on Abraham Foster and Thomas Emerson, S. on road, S. W. and N. W. on Ephraim Towne, S. on road and heirs of Abraham Foster, W. on great brook, N. on Andrew Nichols and others; 74 a., value, \$1160. Tillage and pasture, E. on road leading to Bunker's Meadow; 6 a., 140 p., value, \$137.50. Sticky meadow, 2 a., value, \$32. Meadow in Danvers; Strap meadow, 11 a., value, \$110.

FOSTER, AMOS AND ABRAHAM, HEIRS, owners, Widow Priscilla, Asa and Amos, occupants. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all parts on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1440 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 28 windows; 122 sq. ft. glass; value, \$360.

FOSTER, ASA, *see* Ackley, Joseph. *See also* Brickett, Deborah.

FOSTER, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. by road, N. by Ipswich line, E. and S. by Foster's other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1350 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 18 windows; 90 sq. ft. glass; value, \$240.

FOSTER, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, S. and S. W. by Jacob Symonds, W. by Ephraim and Joseph Dorman, N. by Ipswich line, E. by Dudley Wildes, S. E. by John Batchelder; barn 61x30; barn 30x24; 92 a., 80 p., value, \$1350.

FOSTER, PHINEAS, of Boxford, occupant and owner. Meadow, S. on fish brook; 1 a., 120 p., value, \$31.50.

FRIEND, JOHN, HEIRS, of Wenham, occupants and owners. Meadow, N. W. on Ipswich river; 5 a., value, \$100.

GOODHUE, JOSEPH AND JUDE, of Ipswich, occupants and owners. Pasture, S. by Thomas Cummings; 3 a., 80 p., value, \$63.

GOTT, DANIEL, HEIRS, owners, Jonathan Hobbs, of Wenham, occupant. $\frac{1}{2}$ tract meadow in common and undivided, N. E. by Ipswich river; 2 a., 80 p., value, \$50.

GOULD, ASA, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by Daniel Gould, S. by Joseph Gould and Zaccheus Gould, W. by Daniel Gould, N. by Nathaniel Gould; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 18x28; 19 a., 80 p., value, \$273.50. Meadow, W. by fish brook; 2 a., value, \$36.

GOULD, ASA AND DANIEL, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on all other sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 829 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 15 windows; 90 sq. ft. glass; value, \$290.

GOULD, DANIEL, owner, Daniel Gould, of Boxford, occupant. Meadow he bought of Benj. Goodrich; 2 a., value, \$36.

GOULD, DANIEL, owner, Samuel Gould, of Boxford, occupant. Farm, N. by Nathaniel Gould, E. by Joseph Gould and road; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 18x28; 22 a., value, \$280. Meadow and pasture, N. by Nathaniel Gould; 25 a., value, \$320.

GOULD, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. and W. by road, N. and E. by land of Simon and Elijah Gould.

Land 4 p.; house 1070 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 17 windows; 79 sq. ft. glass; value \$280.

GOULD, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by road, E. by Simon Gould, jr., S. by Nathaniel Gould, W. by Boxford line; barn 40x28; 2 a., value, \$100. Tillage, W. by

Simon Gould, jr.; 5 a., value, \$90. River pasture, 18 a., value, \$360.

GOULD, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. by County road, and on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p; house 780 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 17 windows; 55 sq. ft. glass; value, \$200.

GOULD, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by County road, E. by Elijah Averell, S. by Zaccheus Gould, W. by Joseph Gould and Joseph Gould, jr.; barn 50x24; 56 a., 80 p., value, \$880.

GOULD, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. and S. on road, W. by Joseph Gould, N. by Nathaniel Gould.

Land 80 p; house 798 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 72 sq. ft. glass; value, \$230.

GOULD, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, E. by Rev. Asahel Huntington and Thomas Emerson, S. by his house lot, W. by Nathaniel Gould and County road, N. W. by Boxford line; barn 48x28; 49 a., 120 p., value, \$760.75. Upland and meadow near Rowley bridge, S. by Ipswich river; 9 a., 120 p., value, \$165.75.

GOULD, JOSEPH, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by John Gould, jr., and others, S. by Zaccheus Gould and others, W. by road and Daniel Gould, N. by Nathaniel Gould; barn 90x28; 61 a., 80 p., value, \$950.50. Meadow, W. by Fish brook; 2 a., value, \$36. River meadow, S. by Benj. Pike; 5 a., value, \$90.

GOULD, JOSEPH, JR., occupant and owner. Mowing and tillage, N. by road, E. by John Gould, S. and W. by Joseph Gould; 2 a., 80 p., value, \$42.50. Meadow, S. by Daniel Gould; 3 a., 80 p., value, \$63. Pasture, S. E. by road; 9 a., value, \$108.

GOULD, JOSEPH AND JOSEPH, JR., occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on all other sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1500 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 97 sq. ft. glass; value, \$380.

GOULD, MOSES, of Boxford, occupant and owner. Meadow he bought of John Gould; 1 a., 120 p., value, \$31.50.

GOULD, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 684 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 12 windows; 54 sq. ft. glass; value, \$150.

GOULD, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by Simon Gould and Boxford line, E. by John Gould, jr., S. by John Gould, jr., and others, W. by Elijah Gould; barn 64x28; 35 a., 80 p., value, \$550. Meadow, S. by Fish brook; 4 a., value, \$72.

GOULD, SIMON, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. by Elijah Gould, S. by road, W. by Elijah Gould, N. by his own land.

Land 80 p.; house 700 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 87 sq. ft. glass; value, \$280.

GOULD, SIMON, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Nathaniel and Joseph Gould, W. by Elijah Gould and road, N. by Boxford line, E. by Elijah and Nathaniel Gould; barn 60x28; cider mill house; 10 a., 80 p., value, \$220.50. Tillage and pasture, W. by Joseph Gould; 12 a., value, \$228. River meadow, W. by Ipswich river; 2 a., 80 p., value, \$45. Pasture called Colerain; 20 a., value, \$240.

GOULD, ZACCHEUS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. on road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 940 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 20 windows; 70 sq. ft. glass; outhouse 448 sq. ft.; 1 story; 6 windows; 29 sq. ft. glass; value, \$380.

GOULD, ZACCHEUS, occupant and owner. Farm, N. E. by Thomas Perkins, jr., E. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, Eleazer Lake and Robert Lake, S. by road, W. by Joseph Gould, N. by John Gould and Elijah Averell; barn 95x28; cider mill 40x20; shop 12x12; 65 a., 80 p., value, \$1419. Tillage and mowing, E. by Eleazer Lake and Robert Lake; 16 a., value, \$288. Upland and meadow, S. W. by Fish brook; 10 a., 80 p., value, \$178.50. Sticky meadow; 4 a., 80 p., value, \$81.

HAMMOND, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. E. by road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1320 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 115 sq. ft. glass; value, \$230.

HAMMOND, NATHANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, N. W. by Zebulon Perkins, N. E. and S. E. by Samuel and Elijah Perkins, S. W. by David Perkins; barn 66x32; 59 a., 80 p., value, \$1250. Upland and meadow; field, swamp and broad meadow; 13 a., value, \$250. Ox pasture, 12 a., value, \$222. Ditch lot, Bunker's meadow, 4 a., value, \$46. Same, 2 a., value, \$20. Long lot meadow, 2 a., value, \$34. Tillage and mowing, Webster's, 2 a., value, \$44. Little pasture in common with David Perkins, 3 a., 80 p., value, \$56. $\frac{2}{3}$ Webster's meadow in common with David Perkins, 1 a., value \$17. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot Birch Island in common with David Perkins, jr., 80 p., value, \$5.50.

HOBBS, ABRAHAM, owner. Abraham Hobbs and Abraham Hobbs, jr., occupants. Farm, E. by Benj. Hobbs and Ipswich river, S. by Daniel Towne, Asa Perkins and others, W. by Isaac Averell and others, N. by David Hobbs and County road; barn 52x30; 42 a., 80 p., value, \$500. Pasture on Paine's hill; 20 a., value, \$270. Meadow in common with Benj. Hobbs, N. by brook; 100 p., value, \$11.75. Cedar swamp in common with Benj. Hobbs; 40 p., value, \$1.50.

HOBBS, ABRAHAM, AND ABRAHAM, JR., occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. N. by road and on all other sides by their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 800 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 79 sq. ft. glass; value, \$300.

HOBBS, BENJ., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by County road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 960 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 94 sq. ft. glass; value, \$500.

HOBBS, BENJ., occupant and owner. Farm, N. E. by heirs of Israel Clarke, S. E. by Ipswich river, S. W. and W. by Abraham Hobbs and County road, N. W. and N. by David Hobbs and Daniel Perkins; barn 55x27; shop 20x18; corn mill and saw mill, with one saw; 8 a., 140 p., value, \$900. Meadow in common with Abraham Hobbs, N. by brook; 1 a., 140 p., value, \$35. Pasture and tillage on Paine's hill, 20 p., value, \$340. Cedar swamp in common with Abraham Hobbs, 120 p., value, \$4.50.

HOBBS, DAVID, occupant and owner. Wooden house. S. and W. by County road, N. on my other land, E. by Benj. Hobbs.

Land 80 p.; house 776 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 15 windows; 94 sq. ft. glass; value, \$210.

HOBBS, DAVID, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Benj. Hobbs and Abraham Hobbs, W. by Daniel Towne and Asa Perkins, N. by Daniel Perkins, E. by Benj. Hobbs; barn 33x28; blacksmith shop 30x20; 5 a., 57 p., value, \$100. Pasture and tillage, N. by road; 19 a., 80 p., value, \$200.

HOBBS, JONATHAN, *see* Gott, Daniel.

HOOD, BENJ., of Boxford, occupant and owner. Meadow he bought of John Baker; 6 a., value, \$66.

HOOD, JOHN, owner. John Hood and John Hood, jr., occupants. Wooden dwelling. E. by County road and on every other side on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 936 sq. ft.; 1 story; 11 windows; 48 sq. ft. glass; value, \$120.

HOOD, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, N. and E. by County road and Ipswich line, S. and W. by Benj. Bixby; barn 32x18; 15 a., 80 p., value, \$230.

HOOD, RICHARD, of Wenham, occupant and owner. Pasture, E. on John Conant, jr.; 20 a., value, \$360.

HOOD, SAMUEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. by County road and on every other side on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 840 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 16 windows; 72 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

HOOD, SAMUEL, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by County road, S. by John Baker and Thomas Perkins, jr., W. by Thomas Perkins, jr., N. by Jacob Kimball; barn 30x26; 18 a., value, \$500. Meadow, W. by Moses Wildes; 3 a., value, \$48. Meadow, W. by Fish brook; 1 a., value, \$18.

HOVEY, IVORY, *see* Emerson, Thomas.

HUNTINGTON, REV. ASAHEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. and W. by County road, N. by John Gould, jr., E. on Huntington's other land.

Land 80 p.; house and woodhouse 1264 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 146 sq. ft. glass; occupied by settled minister.

HUNTINGTON, REV. ASAHEL, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by County road, W. by John Gould, jr., E. by Thomas

Emerson and Elijah Averell; barn 46x26; 49 a. Meadow, E. by road, 3 a. Parsonage land, 45 a. Exempt from taxation.

KIMBALL, JACOB, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. and W. by County road, N. by common, E. on Thos. Emerson.

Land 8 p.; house 1170 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 27 windows; 204 sq. ft. glass; value, \$750.

KIMBALL, JACOB, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by County road, S. and W. by Samuel Hood, N. by Thomas Perkins, jr.; 9 a., 80 p., value, \$300. Pasture called bare hill; 42 a., value, \$454. Another same; 10 a., value, \$120. Plains meadow; 6 a., value, \$150. Barn 52x28; shop 30x12.

KNEELAND, AARON, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on every other side on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1200 sq. ft.; 1 story; 17 windows; 83 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

KNEELAND, AARON, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Daniel Perkins, W. by brook, N. by Jabez Ross and others and the brook, N. E. and E. by Ipswich line; barn 30x30; 31 a., 80 p., value, \$464.

LAKE, ELEAZER, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by road, E. by Henry Bradstreet, S. and W. by John Gould, jr., N. W. by Zaccheus Gould, S. and W. by Robert Lake; part of barn 61x28; shop 15x10; shop 22x10; 33 a., 120 p., value, \$700. Tillage, N. and E. by Zaccheus Gould; 80 p., value, \$9. Pasture, N. W. and N. E. by Zaccheus Gould; 13 a., value, \$221. River meadow, N. by Ipswich river; 1 a., 40 p., value, \$22.50. River meadow he bought of Thomas Mason; 2 a., value, \$36. Meadow, S. W. by Fish brook; 1 a., value, \$18. Meadow by Rowley bridge, S. by Ipswich River; 3 a., 80 p., value, \$67.

LAKE, ELEAZER AND ROBERT, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. E. by Zaccheus Gould, S. by road.

Land 30 p.; house 1684 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 105 sq. ft. glass; value, \$380.

LAKE, ROBERT, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by road, E. and S. by Eleazer Lake, W. by Zaccheus Gould; part of barn 22x28; shop 15x9; 9 a., value, \$188. Tillage, S. by road; 80 p., value, \$9. Pasture, W. by road; 12 a., 80 p., value, \$212.50.

LAMSON, EDWARD, of Hamilton, occupant and owner. Meadow, N. by Jacob Symonds; 4 a., value, \$80.

LAMSON, JOSIAH, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. E. by road and on every other side by his other land.

Land 40 p.; house 672 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 92 sq. ft. glass; value, \$230. Wooden dwelling. S. E. by road, and on every other side by his other land.

Land 40 p.; house 1344 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 17 windows; 85 sq. ft. glass; value, \$200.

LAMSON, JOSIAH, occupant and owner. Farm, W. and N. by Ipswich river and County road, E. by Hamilton line, S. by Thomas and Jonas Cummings; barn 53x30; barn 22x30; cider house 24x18; cider house 19x15; shop 16x14; 143 a., 80 p., value, \$2520. Woodlot, W. by Isaac Averell; 6 a., value, \$132.

LEFAVOUR, JOHN, *see* Emerson, Thomas.

MERIAM, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E., S. and W. on County road, N. on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1073 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 29 windows; 213 sq. ft. glass; value, \$700.

MERIAM, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, in common with Jonas Meriam, 70 a., in all, E. by County road, Daniel Perkins and land improved by Wm. Gallop, S. and S. W. by parsonage land, W. by Simon Gould, jr., and heirs of Samuel Brown, N. by road, N. E. by Jacob Kimball and graveyard; barn 30x20; 35 a., value, \$460. Tillage and pasture he bought of John Baker, N. by John and Joseph Batchelder; 11 a., 120 p., value, \$127.50.

MERIAM, JONAS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. on County road and on all sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 784 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 20 windows; 115 sq. ft. glass; value, \$480.

MERIAM, JONAS, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by County road, in common with John Meriam, Daniel Perkins and land improved by Wm. Gallop, S. and S. W. by parsonage land, W. by Simon Gould, jr., and heirs of Samuel Brown, N. by road, N. E. by Jacob Kimball and graveyard; 34 a., 80 p., value, \$510, including barn 36x28; shop 24x18.

MONEYS, WILLIAM, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by road, N. W. and N. by Stephen Perley, S. E. and S. by

Parker Brown and Stephen Perley; 11 a., value, \$110. Small house 1 story; barn 22x22; value, \$40.

MONEYS, WILLIAM, JR., *see* Emerson, Thomas.

MOORE, DOMINICK, *see* Balch, Roger. *See also* Perkins, Daniel, jr.

MOORE, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 675 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 43 sq. ft. glass; value, \$120.

MOORE, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on Jacob Towne and John Dwinell, S. on Joseph Porter, W. on Nathaniel Fiske, N. on road; barn 40x28; 32 a., value, \$608. Meadow, N. on —, W. on Joshua Towne; 3 a., value, \$51.

PATCH, JAMES, of Hamilton, occupant and owner. Meadow, E. by Jacob Symonds, 11 a., value, \$220.

PEABODY, JACOB, owner. Jacob Peabody and Jacob Peabody, jr., occupants. Wooden dwelling. S. by road, and on every other side on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 730 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 9 windows; 40 sq. ft. glass; value, \$140.

PEABODY, JACOB AND JACOB, JR., occupants and owners. Farm, W. by Jacob Symonds, Asa Porter and County road, N. by John Batchelder, N. E. by Nathaniel Foster and others, S. E. by road and by Daniel Bordman, S. by Daniel Bordman and John Baker; barn 42x27; corn mill; 85 a., 80 p., value, \$1680.

PEABODY, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. and N. by County road and every other side by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1189 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 21 windows; 129 sq. ft. glass; value, \$600.

PEABODY, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on John Dwinell, S. on Daniel Balch and others, W. on road and on John Balch, N. on Thomas Balch; barn 53x28; 58 a., value, \$1334. Woods pasture, 8 a., value, \$152. Rowley bridge meadow, 6 a., value, \$108. Farr meadow, 2 a., value, \$36. Plains meadow, 1 a., value, \$22. Meadow bought of John Lamson, 4 a., value, \$72.

PEABODY, JOHN, owner. John Conant, jr., occupant. Meadow, E. and S. on Joshua Towne; 2 a., value, \$34.

PEABODY, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. on road and on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 650 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 62 sq. ft. glass; value, \$240.

PEABODY, JOHN, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, E. on John Batchelder and heirs of Richard Dexter, S. on road, W. on heirs of Richard Dexter, N. on Ipswich river; barn 42x32; 27 a., 80 p., value, \$680. Tillage, N. on road, 4 a., 80 p., value, \$99. Pasture, S. on road, 6 a., value, \$108. Plains meadow, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$33.

PERKINS, ASA, *see* Clarke, Samuel.

PERKINS, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. on County road and on every other side on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 920 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 12 windows; 71 sq. ft. glass; value, \$120.

PERKINS, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Benj. Hobbs and David Hobbs, W. by Daniel Towne and Asa Perkins, N. by road and Jacob Peabody and a brook, E. by brook, Aaron Kneeland and heirs of Israel Clarke; barn 47x30; corn barn 17x16; shop 28x15; 75 a., 80 p., value, \$958.

PERKINS, DANIEL, JR., *see* Balch, Roger. *See also* Bradstreet, Asa.

PERKINS, DANIEL, of Salem, owner. Thomas Perkins, occupant. Wooden dwelling. E. by County road, W. and N. by John Meriam.

Land 4 p.; house 784 sq. ft.; 1 story; 7 windows; 36 sq. ft. glass; value, \$150.

PERKINS, DANIEL, JR., owner. Dominick Moore, occupant. Tillage, mowing and pasture, called hill farm, E. on Roger Balch; 30 a., value \$750, including $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 26x28.

PERKINS, DAVID, owner. David and Ezra Perkins, occupants. Wooden dwelling. S and W. by road and on every other side by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1120 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 21 windows; 76 sq. ft. glass; value, \$260.

PERKINS, DAVID AND EZRA, occupants. Farm, S. W. by Ipswich river, N. W. by David Perkins jr., Zebulon Perkins and Nathaniel Hammond, N. E. by Nathaniel Hammond, Samuel and Elijah Perkins, S. E. by Samuel and Elijah Perkins, Nathaniel Perkins and Ipswich river; barn 62x22; shop 16x11; 62 a., value, \$1240. Upland and meadow, S. E. by river, S. W. by Thomas Emerson, Samuel and Elijah Perkins; 3 a., 130 p., value, \$84. Woodland on all sides on Nath^l Hammond, 80 p., value, \$18. Ditch lot in Bunker's meadow, 2 a., value, \$22. $\frac{1}{3}$ lot in Bunker's meadow in common with Nathaniel Hammond, N. E. by David Perkins, jr.; 106 p., value, \$7. Swamp, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$31.50. $\frac{1}{3}$ Webster's meadow in common with David Perkins, jr., S. E. by river; 80 p., value, \$8.50. Pasture, N. W. by Zebulon Perkins and others; 3 a., 80 p., value, \$62.50. $\frac{1}{2}$ Webster's meadow in common with David Perkins, jr., bought of Thomas Perkins, jr., (2 a. in all,) 1 a., value, \$19. Friend's lot, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$37.50.

PERKINS, ELISHA, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 624 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 12 windows; 65 sq. ft. glass; value, \$240.

PERKINS, ELISHA, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by Zebulon Perkins, N. by Nathaniel Hammond and Jacob Towne; barn 42x26; 10 a., 80 p., value, \$407. Upland and meadow, N. W. and N. E. by road; 5 a., value, \$90. River meadow, E. by Ipswich river; 1 a., value, \$20. River meadow, S. by Elijah Averell; 1 a., 20 p., value, \$22.50. Brook meadow he bought of Daniel and Solomon Averell; 1 a., 80 p., value, \$24. $\frac{1}{2}$ meadow in common with Adam Redington, which he bought of William Kimball, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$50. $\frac{1}{2}$ lot woodland and pasture in common with Zebulon Perkins, which Elisha and Zebulon bought of John Bradstreet, jr., 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres in all; 8 a., 120 p., value, \$210.

PERKINS ELISHA, *see also* Redington, Adam.

PERKINS, EZRA AND DAVID, JR., owners. David Perkins, jr., occupant. Wooden dwelling. S. by road and on all other sides by their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 870 sq. ft.; chaisehouse 144 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 84 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

PERKINS, DAVID, JR., AND EZRA, owners. David Perkins, jr., occupant. Farm, N. E. and S. E. by David Perkins, S. W. by river and brook, N. W. by Elisha Perkins and Zebulon Perkins; barn 46x30; shop 16x11; tan house yard 30x22; 31 a., 80 p., value, \$756. Lot Bunker's meadow bought of Abraham Hobbs, 3 a., value, \$30. $\frac{1}{2}$ meadow lot in common with Nathaniel Hammond, Ezra and David Perkins bought of Abraham Hobbs; 80 p., value, \$5.50. Webster's meadow bought of Thomas Perkins, jr., 1 a., value, \$19.

PERKINS, MOSES, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. E. by County road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 432 sq. ft.; 1 story; 5 windows; 26 sq. ft. glass; value, \$120.

PERKINS, MOSES, occupant and owner. Farm, N. and E. by County road, S. by Roger Balch; barn 32x24; shop 25x15; 5 a., 80 p., value \$240.

PERKINS, ROBERT AND AMOS, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. E. by Robert Perkins, jr., and road, and on all other sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 840 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 9 windows; 45 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

PERKINS, ROBERT AND AMOS, occupants and owners. Farm, E. by road and Robert Perkins, jr., and Samuel Bradstreet, S. by David Perkins, jr., and others, W. by Samuel and Elijah Perkins and others, N. by Robert Perkins, jr.; barn 99x26; corn barn 16x14; 62 a., 80 p., value, \$1000. Great lot of river meadow, 8 a., value, \$144. Garden meadow, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$27.

PERKINS, ROBERT, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. by road, S. W. and N. by Robert and Amos Perkins.

Land 35 p.; house and outhouse 644 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 67 sq. ft. glass; value, \$240.

PERKINS, ROBERT, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, E. by Nathaniel Averell and Samuel Bradstreet, S. by Samuel Bradstreet and road, W. by Robert and Amos Perkins; barn 55x26; tan house 31x24; 53 a., 125 p., value, \$1000. Shop 16x11; shop 12x10.

PERKINS, SAMUEL AND ELIJAH, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. S. E. and S. W. by road, N. W. and N. E. on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1080 sq. ft.; woodhouse 252 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 16 windows; 78 sq. ft. glass; value, \$220.

PERKINS, SAMUEL AND ELIJAH, occupants and owners. Farm, N. E. by Robert and Amos Perkins, S. E. by road and Nathaniel Hammond and Ipswich river, S. W. by Nathaniel Hammond, N. W. by Nathaniel Hammond and David Perkins; barn 75x30; shop 13x10; 45 a., 80 p., value, \$1072. 75. Four acre lot, 7 a., value, \$161. Friend's lot, Bunker's meadow, 2 a., value, \$30. Pasture, W. by David Cummings; 4 a., value, \$76.

PERKINS, THOMAS, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. E. by road and on every other side by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 784 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 15 windows; 74 sq. ft. glass; value, \$230.

PERKINS, THOMAS, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. by Nehemiah Cleaveland, S. W. by Zaccheus Gould, N. W. by Elijah Averell and County road, N. E. by Jacob Kimball and others; barn 34x30; shop 18x15; 23 a., 80 p., value, \$519. Webster's meadow, 5 a., value, \$95.

PERKINS, ZEBULON, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1131 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 16 windows; 91 sq. ft. glass; value, \$320.

PERKINS, ZEBULON, occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. on Nathaniel Hammond and others, S. W. and S. E. by road, S. W. by brook, N. W. by Nathaniel Hammond and Elisha Perkins; barn 61x28; 44 a., 80 p., value, \$1023.50. Webster's meadow, 1 a., 120 p., value, \$31.50. Ditch lot in Bunker's meadow, 2 a., value, \$22. $\frac{1}{2}$ woodland and pasture in Bunker's meadow, in common with Elisha, which they bought of John Bradstreet, jr. (in all 17 a., 80 p.), 8 a., 120 p., value, \$300. Lot in Bunker's meadow, 1 a., value, \$10.

PERLEY, ASA, of Boxford, occupant and owner. Upland, S. by Boxford line; 1 a., 40 p., value, \$25.

PERLEY, STEPHEN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 970 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 16 windows; 68 sq. ft. glass; value, \$190.

PERLEY, STEPHEN, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by brook, S. by Wm. Moneys, W. by road, N. by Boxford line; barn 70x28; 104 a., 80 p., value, \$1250. Meadow, N. E. by Wm. Moneys; 4 a., value, \$68.

PIKE, BENJ., occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Amos Fisk and others, W. by David Towne, N. on Sticky meadow, E. by heirs of Asa Bradstreet and others; 98 a., value, \$1600. Old house, area 684 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 33 sq. ft. glass; barn 41x28; value, \$80.

PORTER, ASA, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. by County road, E. and S. by Jacob Peabody, W. by Jacob Peabody and Jacob Symonds.

Land 38 p.; house 629 sq. ft.; 1 story; 6 windows; 20 sq. ft. glass; value, \$125.

PORTER, ASA, occupant and owner. Pasture and tillage, N. by road; barn 18x15; 3 a., value, \$66.

PORTER, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. on County road and on all other sides on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 720 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 59 sq. ft. glass; value, \$200.

PORTER, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, S. E. by Benj. Putnam and Joseph Brown, W. by Amos Peabody and others, N. by Henry Bradstreet, E. by Joseph and Archelaus Towne and Israel Andrews; barn 53x27; tan house 35x19; 125 a., value, \$2200. Woodlot in Middleton, Walcott's Island, 5 a., value, \$100.

PORTER, TYLER, of Wenham, occupant and owner. Woodland, S. E. by Robert Perkins and others; 120 p., value, \$18.

POTTER, EZEKIEL, of Ipswich, occupant and owner. Woodlot, W. by Ephraim and Joseph Dorman; 3 a., value, \$36.

POTTER, EZEKIEL, JR., of Ipswich, occupant and owner. Woodlot, W. by Nathaniel P. Averell; 4 a., value, \$100.

PUTNAM, CLEAVES, HEIRS OF, Danvers, owners, David Towne, occupant. Pasture, E. on Benj. Pike; 4 a., value, \$56.

RAMSDELL, JOHN, of Ipswich, occupant and owner. Pasture, 8 a., value, \$88.

REA, ISRAEL, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. on Joseph Towne and on every other side on his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1008 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 24 windows; 143 sq. ft. glass; value, \$450.

REA, ISRAEL, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on Joseph Porter, S. on Archelaus Rea, W. on Joseph and Archelaus Towne, N. on John Rea; barn 65x25; 73 a., 80 p., value, \$1543.50. Strap meadow, 10 a., value, \$120.

REA, JOHN, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. by a road and on every other way by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 612 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 70 sq. ft. glass; value, \$130.

REA, JOHN, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on land owned by John Dwinnell and himself, then on John and Israel Rea, W. on Joseph and Archelaus Towne, N. on Daniel Esty and others; barn 37x27; 41 a., 80 p., value, \$900. Meadow in Blind Hole, Danvers, 10 a., value, \$125.

REA, JOHN, *see also* Dwinell, John.

REDDINGTON, ADAM, of Wenham, occupant and owner. $\frac{1}{2}$ meadow lot, in common with Elisha Perkins, 5 a., N. W. on Ipswich river; 2 a., 80 p., value, \$50.

ROSS, ADAM, of Ipswich, occupant and owner. Pasture, 15 a., value, \$105.

SMITH, JOSEPH, occupant and owner. Woodlot, Averell's Island, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$75.

SMITH, REUBEN, of Hamilton, occupant and owner. Woodland on Averell's Island, 2 a., 80 p., value, \$75. Woodland on Bradstreet's Island, bought of Moses Bradstreet, 5 a., 40 p., value, \$94.50.

STICKNEY, DUDLEY, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Aaron Kneeland, S. W. by Adam Ross and brook, W. by Dudley Wildes and others, N. and E. by Ipswich line; 37 a., value, \$510. House, 1 story; 470 sq. ft.; 4 windows; 20 sq. ft. glass; barn 40x20; value, \$80.

SYMONDS, JACOB, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. S. E. by County road and on every other side by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 760 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 55 sq. ft. glass; value, \$290.

SYMONDS, JACOB, occupant and owner. Farm, S. W. by brook, N. W. by Nathaniel P. Averell, N. E. by Nathaniel Foster, S. E. by County road; 63 a., 80 p., value, \$954.50, including barn 51x30. Great hill pasture, 17 a., value, \$255. River meadow, S. by Edward Lamson, 5 a., value, \$100. River meadow, S. by Benj. Hobbs, 3 a., value, \$60.

TENNEY, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. on County road and on all other sides by their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1080 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 13 windows; 34 sq. ft. glass; value, \$120.

TENNEY, THOMAS, occupant and owner. Farm, E. by County road, S. by Daniel Porter, W. by Amos Peabody and Betty Towne, N. by Ebenezer Towne and others; barn 44x28; 44 a., 80 p., value, \$801. Sticky meadow, 4 a., value, \$60. Pasture, called mine lot, 4 a., value, \$68. Meadow in Danvers, in Bishop's meadow, 80 p., value, \$7.

TOWNE, BETTY, occupant and owner. Pasture, called Sheep pasture, 13 a., 40 p., value, \$212. Upper field, 3 a., 80 p., value, \$70.

TOWNE, DANIEL, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Isaac Averell and Daniel Bordman, W. by Daniel Bordman, N. by County road, E. by Daniel Perkins; barn 64x24; cider house and corn barn 40x20; shop 11x11; 59 a., 80 p., value, \$880. River meadow, 6 a., value, \$102. River meadow, log lot, 4 a., value, \$76. River meadow, S. by Joseph Andrews; 2 a., 80 p., value, \$45.

TOWNE, DANIEL, AND ASA PERKINS, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1000 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 11 windows; 76 sq. ft. glass; value, \$230.

TOWNE, DAVID, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on heirs of Putnam Cleaves, S. on Amos Foster, W. on Sticky meadow, N. on Benj. Pike; barn 32x28; 24 a., 80 p., value, \$360. Tillage, E., S. and W. on Amos Foster, 4 a., value, \$56.

TOWNE, DAVID AND EBENEZER, occupants and owners. Wooden dwelling. S. E. on road and on all other sides on their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 690 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 10 windows; 73 sq. ft. glass; value, \$170.

TOWNE, DAVID, *see also* Putnam, Cleaves.

TOWNE, ELIJAH, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on County road, S. by heirs of Joseph Towne, W. on brook, N. on Ephraim Towne and Lydia Towne; 17 a., 80 p., value, \$300. West $\frac{1}{2}$ of old house 20x20; $\frac{1}{2}$ barn 26x28; Sheep pasture, 3 a., 80 p., value, \$92.

TOWNE, EPHRAIM, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. by County road and on every other side by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1230 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 18 windows; 80 sq. ft. glass; value, \$130.

TOWNE, EPHRAIM, occupant and owner. Farm, W. by County road, N. by David Balch, E. and S. by David Cummings; barn 53x28; 23 a., 80 p., value, \$500. Five acre lot, value, \$90. Pasture, N. by Amos Foster; 13 a., value, \$221. Upland and meadow, N. by Lydia Towne, 11 a., value, \$165.

TOWNE, JACOB, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 780 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 8 windows; 20 sq. ft. glass; value, \$110.

TOWNE, JACOB, occupant and owner. Farm, N. E. by Sylvanus Wildes and others, S. E. by Elisha Perkins and Zebulon Perkins, S. W. by Elisha Perkins and others, N. W. by Thomas Emerson; barn 58x28; 68 a., 80 p., value, \$1500. Hassocky meadow, 10 a., value, \$125. Pasture, called mine lot, in common and undivided, 1 a., 152 p., value, \$33.

TOWNE, JACOB, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. and E. by road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 786 sq. ft.; Woodhouse 180 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 15 windows; 84 sq. ft. glass; value, \$300.

TOWNE, JACOB, JR., occupant and owner. Farm, E. on heirs of Benj. Fisk, S. on Wenham line and Joseph Sprague and others, W. on Joseph Porter and others, N. W. on Richard Hood, N. on Nathaniel Fisk and heirs of Benj. Fisk, N. E. on Joshua Towne and heirs of Benj. Fisk; barn 63x25; barn and cider house 54x20; 57 a., value, \$1150. Meadow and pasture, E. on John Peabody, 14 a., value, \$252.

TOWNE, JOSEPH AND ARCHELAUS, occupants and owners. Farm, E. by Israel Rea and Israel Andrews, S. by Daniel Porter and David Cummings, W. by David Cummings and Elijah Perkins, N. by Thomas Emerson and others; 50 a., value, \$1100. Old house 40x18; barn 44x28; value, \$70. Meadow in Bishop's meadow, Danvers, 1 a., 80 p., value, \$19.50.

TOWNE, JOSHUA, occupant and owner. Farm, E. on Jacob Towne, John Conant and others, S. on Jacob Towne and John Conant, W. on land of Sarah Fisk and Jacob Towne, N. E. on Bunker's meadow; 50 a., value, \$1000, including barn 54x26, and barn 26x26.

TOWNE, JOSHUA, JR., occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. W. by road and on every other side by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 918 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 23 windows; 81 sq. ft. glass; value, \$320.

TOWNE, LYDIA, occupant and owner. Meadow pasture, 12 a., 27 p., value, \$184. Upper field lot, 3 a., 26 p., value, \$63. Pasture, mine lot, 1 a., 152 p., value, \$33.

WEBBER, THOMAS, of Wenham, occupant and owner. Bunker's meadow, S. E. by Birch Island; 3 a., 120 p., value, \$60.

WILDES, DUDLEY, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. Bounded on all sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 720 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 14 windows; 78 sq. ft. glass; value, \$160.

WILDES, DUDLEY, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by brook, W. by Nathaniel Foster, N. by Moses Conant, E. by Dudley Stickney and brook; barn 38x28; 64 a., 80 p., value, \$709.50.

WILDES, ELISHA, HEIRS OF, owners. Sylvanus Wildes, adm. of estate of Elisha Wildes, dec'd, occupant. Wooden dwelling. S. by private road and on all other sides by their other land.

Land 80 p.; house 1280 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 17 windows; 83 sq. ft. glass; value, \$320.

WILDES, ELISHA, HEIRS OF, owners. Sylvanus Wildes, adm. of Elisha Wildes' estate, occupant. Farm, S. E. and S. by Moses Wildes, W. by Jacob Towne and Joseph Andrews, N.

by Ephraim Wildes, E. by Moses Bradstreet; barn 58x26; cider house 18x16; 31 a., 80 p., value, \$750. Meadow, E. by Moses Bradstreet, 7 a., value, \$119. Pasture, S. by Thomas Emerson, 18 a., value, \$306.

WILDES, EPHRAIM, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. E. by road, on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 800 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 17 windows; 104 sq. ft. glass; value, \$340.

WILDES, EPHRAIM, occupant and owner. Farm, S. by Moses Bradstreet and heirs of Elisha Wildes, W. by heirs of Joseph Andrews and Daniel Bordman, N. by Daniel Bordman, E. by brook; barn 51x26; 65 a., 80 p., value, \$1050.50. River meadow in Bunker's meadow, E. on Ipswich river, 4 a., value, \$72. River meadow, S. by Bradstreet's Island, 2 a., value, \$40.

WILDES, MOSES, occupant and owner. Wooden dwelling. N. by heirs of Elisha Wildes, E. on road and on all other sides by his other land.

Land 80 p.; house 952 sq. ft.; 2 stories; 9 windows; 43 sq. ft. glass; value, \$110.

WILDES, MOSES, occupant and owner. Farm, N. by heirs of Elisha Wildes, E. by heirs of Elisha Wildes and Moses Bradstreet, S. by Solomon Dodge and Isaac Averell, W. by Jacob Towne; barn 52x26; 54 a., 80 p., value, \$1050. Pasture on Great hill, 14 a., value, \$252. Hassocky meadow, 3 a., value, \$48.

NOTE.—At the end of this volume will be found a list of the present (1901) owners of the several estates enumerated in the foregoing return of the U. S. Direct Tax.

THE SEATING IN THE MEETING-HOUSE.

1762 AND 1771.

February 13, 1759, the town of Topsfield voted to build a new meeting-house "fifty four foot in Leingth and forty Two foot in Bredth and Twenty Six foot stud with a perpornable Steeple" and that it be located "where the old meeting house now stands," that is, upon the present site on the Common. Several meetings were held and various committees were chosen. On May 24, a committee of five men was chosen "to take Down the old meeting house," presumably to superintend its demolition, and the church records certify under date of June 3rd, that Rebeckah, the daughter of Thomas Perkins, was "ye last child baptized in ye old Meeting house." On the 26th of the same month, a town-meeting was called at the house of Dan Clark, innholder (whose buildings were located where Bailey's Block now stands), and it was voted to raise the frame of the church on Wednesday, July 4th, and to "provid vietuls and Drink . . . for the Laborers before supper time," namely, one barrel of "Rhum", fifty weight of "Shuger", and twelve barrels of "Sider", with which to celebrate the event. The meeting also appointed a committee to provide a dinner for one hundred men.

On August 14th, a town-meeting was called to meet at the new meeting-house to consider the matter of finishing the inside, and probably not long after, the building was occupied for religious services. At once the town found itself face to face with the momentous problem of seating the worshipers in order of their age and standing in the community.

The following lists, one made in 1762, and the other in 1771, enumerate the inhabitants of the town, almost as closely as the census of the modern time, and because of the lack of detailed information of that early period, became of great value to the historian and genealogist.

May 20, 1760, the town appointed a committee of twelve men to seat the towns-folk in the meeting-house "according to there Best Skill and Judgement." In due time their report was presented to the town in town-meeting assembled and it "passed in the Negative." May 5, 1761, another committee, of five men, was appointed and they were instructed to "have Respect to age and money." Sept. 22nd of the same year, Daniel Bixby, Dan Clarke and Zaccheus Gould were chosen "to assist the committee that did refuse to seat," and the following report is probably the one that was presented to the town May 18, and July 13, 1762, and not adopted.

Dan Clark, Simon Gould, Zaccheus Gould and Daniel Bixby, members of a committee appointed to "seat the Inhabitants of said Town in the Meeting house," prepared a report dated May 17, 1762, as follows:—

THE ELDERS SEAT.

Mr. Jacob Dorman.
Cap^t Nath^l Avriel.
Mr. Ric^d Towne.
Mr. Solomon Gould.

Mr. William Perkins.
Mr. Luke Avriel.
Mr. Matth^w Peabody.

THE MENS FIRST SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Eliezar Lake.
Cap^t Tobijah Perkins.
Mr. Ephraim Wilds.
Mr. John Davis.
Mr. Aaron Easty.
Cap^t Tho^s Baker.
Mr. Phillip Neland.
Mr. Samuel Perkins.
Mr. Tho^s Gould.

Cap^t Benj^m Towne.
Mr. David Balch.
Mr. Jacob Perkins.
Mr. David Commings.
Mr. Samuel Bradstreet.
Doc^t Richard Dexter.
Mr. John Batcholer.
Mr. John Perkins.

THE MENS 2ND SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Jacob Averil.	Mr. Stephen Foster.
Mr. Stephen Towne.	Mr. Samuel Towne.
Mr. John Gould.	Mr. Michal Dwinel.
Mr. Jeremiah Towne.	Mr. Dan Clark.
Mr. Elijah Porter.	Cap ^t John Bordman.
Mr. Tho ^s Perkins.	Mr. Joseph Hovey.
Mr. Jabez Towne.	Mr. Phillip Towne.

THE MENS 3RD SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Elisha Towne.	Mr. Nathan Hood.
Mr. Benjamin Ierland.	Mr. Jacob Dwinel.
Mr. Nathaniel Towne.	Mr. David Towne.
Mr. Zebulon Wilds.	Mr. Jeremiah Averil.
Mr. Elisha Wilds.	Mr. David Perkins.
Mr. Pelatiah Commings.*	Mr. Joshua Towne.
Mr. Enos Knight.	Mr. David Balch, Jun.

THE MENS 4TH SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Samuel Harris.	Mr. Simon Bradstreet.
Mr. Phillip Neland, Jun.	Mr. John Cree.
Mr. Joshua Balch.	Mr. Benj ⁿ Woodbury.
Mr. Isaac Perkins.	Mr. John Lefavor.
Mr. Jacob Averil, Jun.	Mr. Nathan Wilds.
Mr. Nathaniel Low.	Mr. Jacob Kimbel.*
Mr. Samuel Towne, Jun.	

THE MENS 5TH SEAT BELOW.

Mr. John Hood.	Mr. William Gallop.
Mr. Benj ⁿ Bayley.	Mr. Joseph Lesley.
Mr. Enoch Perkins.	Mr. William Hood.
Mr. Williaam Perkins, Jun.	

THE MENS 6 SEAT BELOW.

Mr. John Holgat.	Mr. Nathan Perkins.
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*Name crossed out in ink.

THE 1ST SEAT IN THE FRONT GALLERY.

Mr. Tho ^s Symonds	Mr. Samuel Smith.
Mr. John Balch.	Mr. Abraham Hobbs.
Mr. Solomon Dodge.	Mr. Eliezar Lake, Jun.
Mr. Zaccheus Gould.	Mr. Simon Gould.
Mr. John Bradstreet.	Mr. John Baker.
Mr. Joseph Andrews.	Mr. Joseph Gould.
Mr. Daniel Bixby.	Mr. Daniel Lake.
Mr. Joseph Towne.	Mr. John Perkins, Jun.
Mr. Sam ^l Commings.	Mr. Benj ⁿ Bixby.
Mr. Pealatiah Commings.	

THE MENS 1ST SEAT IN Y^E WEST GALLERY.

Doct ^r Joseph Bradstreet.	Mr. Tho ^s Perkins, Jun.
Mr. Robert Perkins.	Mr. Stephen Perkins.
Mr. Tho ^s Mower.	Mr. Samuel Bradstreet.
Mr. Archelus Rea.	Mr. Stephen Adams.
Mr. John Herrick.	Mr. Nehemiah Herrick.
Mr. Benjamin Dwinell.	Mr. Moses Perkins.
Mr. Amos Perkins.	Mr. John Peabody
Mr. Jacob Towne.	Mr. John Jacobs.
Mr. Tho ^s Howlett.	Mr. Daniel Towne.
Mr. Tho ^s Gould, Jun.	Mr. John Baker, Jun.
Mr. Tho ^s Emerson.	Mr. Daniel Clark.
Mr. Jacob Kimbal.	

THE FRONT BACK PEW.

Mr. Daniel Averil.	Mr. Samuel Perkins.
Mr. Joseph Perkins.	Mr. Isaac Averil.
Mr. Jacob Peabody.	Mr. Francis Towne.
Mr. Elijah Clark.	Mr. Nathaniel Dormon.
Mr. Tho ^s Wilds.	Mr. Davis Howlett.
Mr. Richard Cree.	Mr. Bart ^w Dwinell.
Mr. Zebulon Perkins.	Mr. Othniel Thomas.
Mr. Elijah Towne.	Mr. Daniel Easty.
Mr. Stephen Hovey.	Mr. David Balch, 3 rd .
Mr. Stephen Foster, Jun.	Mr. Daniel Reddington.
Mr. Joseph Baker.	

THE NORTH HIND PEW IN Y^E WEST GALLERY.

Mr. Ephraim Dorman.	Mr. Asa Gould.
Mr. Moses Wilds.	Mr. David Neland.
Mr. Abraham Hobbs, Jun.	Mr. Elijah Dwinel.
Mr. Moses Gould.	Mr. Daniel Porter.
Mr. John Towne.	Mr. Jacob Towne, Jr.
Mr. William Monies.	Mr. John Balch, Jun.
Mr. Henry Bradstreet.	Mr. Philemon Perkins.

THE SOUTH HIND PEW IN Y^E WEST GALLERY.

Mr. John Clough.*	Mr. John Batchelor, Jun.
Mr. Dan Clark, Jun.	Mr. Sam ^l Balch.
Mr. Nath ⁿ Hood.	Mr. Daniel Hood.
Mr. Jacob Dwinel, Jun.	Mr. Stephen Towne, Jun.
Mr. Asahal Smith.	Mr. Sam ^l Harris, Jun.
Mr. Ellexander Tapley.	Mr. William Perkins, 3 rd .
Mr. Elijah Towne, Jun.	Mr. Ephram Wilds, Jun.
Mr. Nathaniel Porter.	

THE SECOND SEAT IN THE FRONT GALLERY.

Isaac Hobbs.	John Shereion.
Elnathan Hubbard.	Zaccheus Gould, Jun.
Jabez Ross, Jun.	Samuel Cree.
Oliver Perkins.	Benj ⁿ Jonson.
Nathaniel Low, Jun.	Samuel Tapley.
Jacob Hobbs.	Asa Stiles.
Phillip Thomas.	David Towne, Jun.
Absalom Towne.	Jeremiah Towne, Jun.
Seth Peabody.	Robert Balch.
John Hubburd.	

THE WOMENS FIRST SEAT.

the widow Rebecca Peabody.	the widow Anna Hovey.
the widow Elisabeth Bradstreet.	the widow Hannah Edwards.
Mr. Jacob Dormons wife.	Mr. Eliezar Lakes wife.
Deacon George Bixbys wife.	the widow Phebe Wilds.
	the widow Mary Gould.

*Name crossed out in ink.

Capt. Tobijah Perkins wife.	the widow Doritha Riggs.
Capt. Benjamin Towns wife.	the widow Susan ^h Commings.
Mr. John Davis wife.	the widow Mary Dwinel.
the widow Mary Dwinel.	Mr. Aaron Eastys wife.
the widow Mary Perkins.	the widow Abigail Dormon.
the widow Elizabeth Perkins.	the widow Joanna Curtis.

THE WOMENS 2 SEAT.

the widow Elisabeth Redington.	Mr. Michael Dwinels wife.
the widow Hannah Perkins.	the widow Abigail Porter.
Mr. John Perkins wife.	the widow Elisabeth Perkins.
the widow Mary Rea.	Mr. David Commings wife.
Mr. Samuel Perkins wife.	Mr. Richard Towns wife.
the widow Abigail Commings.	the widow Rebecca Towne.
Mr. Ephraim Wilds wife.	Mr. Philip Nelands wife.
Mr. Stephen Fosters wife.	Mr. Tho ^s Symonds wife.

THE WOMANS 3RD SEAT.

Mr. William Perkins wife.	Mr. Jacob Averil wife.
Capt. Nathanel Averil wife.	Mr. John Goulds wife.
Mr. John Balchs wife.	Mr. Tho ^s Symonds wife.*
Mr. Jabez Towns wife.	Mr. Stephen Towns wife.
Mr. Matthew Peabodys wife.	Mr. Samuel Towns wife.
Mr. Jeremiah Towns wife.	Mr. Benj ⁿ Ierlands wife.
Mr. Jacob Dwinels wife.	Mr. Zebulon Wilds wife.
the widow Sarah Kittery.	Mr. David Balch wife.

THE WOMENS 4 SEAT.

the widow Mary Clark.	Mr. Eliezar Lakes Jun. wife.
Mr. John Cree wife.	Mr. John Lefavors wife.
Mr. Abraham Hobbs wife.	Mr. Nathaniel Towns wife.
the widow Lidia Standly.	Mrs.† Sarah Towne.
the widow Mary Hubbard.	Mr. Isaac Perkins wife.
Mr. Enos Knights wife.	the widow Abihal Tapley.
Mr. Samuel Towne Jun. wife.	

*Name crossed out in ink.

†"Mrs." here means "Mistress;" an unmarried woman.

THE WOMENS 5 SEAT.

Mrs. Sarah Gould.	Mrs. Hannah Willard.
the widow Dorithy Pritchard.	Mr. Simon Bradstreets wife.
Mr. Richard Crees wife.	Mr. Phillip Neland Jun. wife.
Mrs. Sarah Averil.	Mr. William Gallops wife.
Mrs. Catherine Perkins.	Mr. Samuel Harris wife.
Mrs. Elisabeth Perkins.	

THE WOMENS 6 SEAT.

the widow Hannah Masties.	Mr. Enoch Perkins wife.
Mr. Joseph Lessley wife.	Mr. Benj ^m Bayley wife.
Mrs. Jemima Towne.	Mrs. Mary Louden.
Mrs. Kesiah Perkins.	Mrs. Anna Wallas.

THE WOMENS 1 SEAT IN Y^E FRONT GALLERY.

Mr. Samuel Smith wife.	the widow Mary Town.
the widow Martha Bradstreet.	the widow Sarah Hovey.
Mr. Philip Towne wife.	Mr. Solomon Dodge wife.
Mr. John Baker wife.	Mr. Samuel Commings wife.
Mr. John Baker Jun. wife.	

THE WOMENS 1 SEAT IN Y^E EAST GALLERY.

Mr. Benjamin Woo[d]bury wife.	Mr. Joshua Balch wife.
Mrs. Catherine Wildes.	Mrs. Ruth Andrews.
Mr. Amos Perkins wife.	Mrs. Rebecca Perkins.
Mr. Tho ^s Perkins Jun. wife.	Mr. Joseph Towne wife.
Mr. Tho ^s Gould Jun. wife.	Mr. Elijah Clark wife.
Mr. Othniel Thomas wife.	Mr. Francis Towne wife.
Mr. John Peabody wife.	Mr. Moses Perkins wife.
Mr. Benjamin Dwinel wife.	Mr. Jacob Averill Jun. wife.
Mr. Thomas Howletts wife.	Mr. John Jacobs wife.
Mr. Daniel Towne wife.	Mr. Stephen Adams wife.
Mr. John Herrick wife.	the widow Lidia Chapman.

NOTE:—"Mrs." as used above, means "Mistress;" an unmarried woman.

THE WOMENS BACK PEW IN THE FRONT GALLERY.

the widow Hannah Ramsdal.
 Mr. William Hood wife.
 Mr. W^m Monies wife.
 Mr. Daniel Averil wife.
 Mr. Stephen Hovey wife.
 Mr. David Neland wife.
 Mr. Bart^w Dwinell wife.
 Mrs. Susannah Commings.
 Mrs. Aphia Perkins.

the widow Martha Dwinell.
 Mr. David Balch 3rd wife.
 Mr. Isaac Averill wife.
 Mr. Davis Howletts wife.
 Mr. Tho^s Wilds wife.
 Mr. John Clough wife.*
 Mrs. Luce Perkins.
 Mrs. Mercey Bradstreet.
 Mr. Daniel Redington wife.

THE WOMENS BACK PEW THE NORTH SIDE OF THE DOOR.

Mrs. Vashty Smith.
 Mrs. Elisabeth Perkins.
 Mrs. Elisabeth Bryant.
 Mrs. Ruth Symonds.
 Mrs. Sarah Towne.
 Mrs. Anna Batchelor.
 Mrs. Sarah Hobbs.
 Mrs. Elisabeth Perkins.
 Mrs. Sarah Perkins.

Mrs. Lidia Averil.
 Mr. Abraham Burnam wife.*
 Mrs. Hannah Towne.
 Mrs. Mary Porter.
 Mrs. Abigail Foster.
 Mrs. Martha Balch.
 Mrs. Ruth Dodge.
 Mrs. Mary Cree.

THE WOMENS BACK PEW THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE DOOR.

Susannah Smith.
 Mary Gould.
 Molley Hooper.
 Sarah Perkins.
 Ruth Towne.
 Sarah Cree.
 Phebe Porter.
 Mary Perkins.
 Molley Wildes.

Mary Redington.
 Anna Esty.
 Mary Lefavor.
 Sarah Perkins.
 Mehitble Towne.
 Dorothy Perkins.
 Mary Wildes.*
 Anna Symonds.
 Sarah Hood.

NOTE:—"Mrs." as used above, means "Mistress;" an unmarried woman.

*Name crossed out in ink.

THE WOMENS SECOND SEAT IN THE FRONT GALLERY.

Rachal Lefavor.
 Mary Averil.
 Abigail Towne.
 Hepsabah Wilds.
 Dorcase Towne.

Sarah Hood.*
 Priscilla Averil.
 Susannah Gallop.
 Mary Hovey.
 Susannah Hood.

At town-meeting held May 16, 1771, Zaccheus Gould, Capt. Samuel Smith, Jacob Dwinell and Thomas Symonds were appointed "a Com^{tee} to seat the Inhabitants of the Town in the Meeting house," and on Oct. 15th, following, Capt. John Boardman and Abraham Hobbs were added to the committee. It does not appear upon record that any report was ever presented in town-meeting, but the following list was probably prepared by this committee.

A COPY OF THE SEATING OF THE PEOPLE
 IN THE MEETING-HOUSE.

THE ELDERS SEAT.

Mr. William Perkins.
 Cap. Nathaniel Averell.
 Let. Luke Averell.
 Cap. Tobijah Perkins.

Cap. Thomas Baker.
 Mr. Aaron Estey.
 Doct. Richard Dextor.

*Name crossed out in ink.

THE MENS FIRST SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Jacob Perkins.	Mr. Stephen Towne.
Mr. John Perkins.	Mr. Abraham Hobbs.
Mr. Mathew Peabodey.	Mr. Thomas Perkins.
Mr. Jacob Averell.	Mr. Jeremiah Towne.
Mr. Stephen Foster.	Mr. Nathan Hood.
Mr. Thomas Symonds.	Cap. John Bordman.
Mr. Symond Gould.	Mr. Davied Baltch.
Mr. Samuel Smith.	Mr. Elijah Porter.
Mr. John Baltch.	

THE MENS SECOND SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Phillip Towne.	Mr. Thomas Perkins.
Mr. Theofelous Fisk.	Mr. Ephram Towne.
Mr. Jacob Dwinel.	Mr. Zecaers Gould.
Mr. Elezer Lake.	Mr. Jeremiah Averell.
Mr. Solomon Dodge.	Mr. John Bradstreet.
Mr. Joshua Towne.	Mr. Joseph Andrews.
Mr. John Rea.	Mr. David Towne.
Mr. Nathan Wildes.	Mr. John Perkins, Jun.
Mr. Elisha Wildes.	Mr. Joseph Gould.

THE MENS THIRD SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Jacob Towne.	Mr. Stephen Adams.
Mr. Joseph Towne.	Mr. Batholomu Dwinel.
Mr. Phillip Neeland.	Mr. Daniel Bixbey.
Mr. Stephen Perkins.	Mr. Samuel Bradstreet.
Mr. Benjemain Eierland [Ireland].	Mr. Samuel Commings.
Mr. John Cree.	Mr. David Perkins.
Mr. Nathaniel Low.	Mr. Enoch Knight.
Mr. John Baker.	Mr. Roberd Perkins.
Doct. Joseph Bradstreet.	Mr. Amoses Wildes.

THE MENS FORTH SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Daniel Averell.	Mr. Thomas Gould.
Mr. Jacob Averell, Jun.	Mr. Symond Bradstreet.
Mr. Thomas Wood.	Mr. William Gallop.
Mr. John Hood.	Mr. Enoch Perkins.
Mr. John Lefaver.	

THE MENS FIFTH SEAT BELOW.

Mr. William Perkins.
Mr. Samuel Cree.

Mr. Nathanell Dean.

THE MENS FIRST SEAT IN THE FRUNT GALLERY.

Mr. John Peobedey.
Mr. Moses Perkins.
Mr. Joseph Perkins.
Mr. Daveid Baltch.
Mr. Nathaniel Dormon.
Mr. Jacob Kimbel.
Mr. Samuel Perkins.
Mr. Daniel Cleark.
Mr. Daniel Towne.
Mr. Thomas Moores.

Mr. Amoses Perkins.
Mr. John Baltch.
Mr. Jacob Peobeadey.
Mr. Samuel Smith, Jun.
Mr. Zebulan Perkins.
Mr. Abraham Hobbs, Jun.
Mr. Henrey Bradstreet.
Mr. John Baker, Jun.
Mr. Thomas Emerson.

THE MENS SECOND SEAT IN FRUNT GALLERY.

Mr. David Towne.
Mr. Solomon Dodge.
Mr. William Estey.
Mr. Nathaniel Averell, Jun.
Mr. Joseph Towne.
Mr. Ebenezer Knight.
Mr. John Gould, third.
Mr. John Lefaver.

Mr. Elisha Perkins.
Mr. Richerd Hood.
Mr. Amoses Averell.
Mr. Stephen Perkins, Jun.
Mr. Isaac Peobedey.
Mr. Moses Perkins, Jun.
Mr. John Rea, Jun.

THE THIRD SEAT IN THE FRUNT GALLERY.

Daniel Gould.
Ruben Page.
Symond Gould.
Robert Lake.
Elijah Perkins.
Dudley Bixbey.
Roger Baltch.
Ezriel Baltch.

John Baker the 3^d.
Joshua Towne.
David Perkins.
John Perkins y^e 4.
Amos Dwinel.
John Rea.
Nathaniel Goot.

THE MENS FRUNT BACK PUE IN THE GALLERY.

Jacob Symonds.	Daniel Dodge.
Daniel Perkins.	Johnthan Baker.
Daniel Bordman.	Samuel Fisk.
Elezir Lake, Jun.	Thomas Porter.
Cornelous Baltch.	Olever Towne.
Benjamin Hobbs.	John Perkins the 3.
Zeacch Gould.	John Dwinel.
William Perkins, Jun.	William Towne.
Joseph Hood.	David Hobbs.
Benj ^m Gould.	Benjamin Hood.
Andrew Gould.	Elnathan Hobberd.

THE MENS FIRST SEAT IN THE WEST GALLERY.

Mr. Ephram Dorman.	Mr. Daniel Estey.
Mr. Isaac Hobbs.	Mr. Nemiah Herick.
Mr. John Batcheller.	Mr. John Gould.
Mr. Moses Wildes.	Mr. Olever Perkins.
Mr. Roberd Baltch.	Mr. Asa Gould.
Mr. Daniel Reddington.	Mr. Daniel Hood.
Mr. Jacob Dwinel.	Isaac Averell.
Mr. Nathaniel Fisk.	Mr. Benjamin Kimbel.
Mr. Stephen Foster, Jun.	Thomas Wilds.
Mr. Ephraham Wildes.	Jeremiah Towne.
Mr. Elijah Towne.	

THE NORTH HIND PUE IN THE WEST GALLERY.

David Baltch y ^e 3.	Joseph Cree.
Jacob Towne, Jun.	Ezra Perkins.
Ephram Towne.	Thomas Hovey.
Archalous Towne.	Earon Hovey.
Nathaniel Gould.	Earon Neeland.
Daniel Gould.	Selvenous Wilds.
Jonathan Hobbs.	

THE SOUTH HIND PUE IN THE WEST GALLERY.

Eivery Hovey.	Samuel Symonds.
Asa Cree.	Samuel Baltch, Jun.
Elisha Gould.	John Perkins y ^e 5.
Archulous Dwinel.	Amos Low.

Free Parker.
Archulous Perkins.
Thomas Perkins, Jun.

Joseph Symonds.
John Greenno.

THE WEMEN FIRST SEAT BELOW.

the wid. Mary Towne.
the widow Rebecca Peabodey.
the widow Anna Hovey.
the widow Elisabeth Brad-
street.
the widow hannah Edwards.
the widow Mary Perkins.
the widow Elisabeth Pirkins.
the widow Abigail Dormon.
the widow Martha Clark.
the widow hannah Becheller.

the widow Mary Dweniel.
the widow Abigail Porter.
the widow Mary Lake.
the widow hannah Towne.
Cap. Tobijah Perkins wife.
Mr. Aaron Esteys wife.
Mr. Jacob Averell wife.
Mr. William Perkins wife.
Cap. Nathaniel Averell wife.
Dcon. Gorges Bixbey wife.

THE WEMENS SECEND SEAT BELOW.

the widow hepsebath Wildes.
Mr. Stephen Foster wife.
Mr. Thomas Symonds wife.
Cap. Sam^l Smith wife.
Dcon. John Gould wife.
Mr. Abraham Hobbs wife.
Mr. Mathew Peobedys wife.

Mr. John Baltch wife.
Mrs. Sarah Averell.
Mr. Thop^{els} Fisk wife.
Mr. Jeremiah Towne wife.
Mrs. Sarah Towne.
the widow Ester Baltch.

THE WEMEN THIRD SEAT BELOW.

the widow Sarah Hovey.
the widow Martha Dweniel.
Mr. Phillip Towne wife.
Mr. Solomon Dodge wife.
Mr. Elezer Lake wife.
Mr. Jacob Dweniel wife.
Mr. Stephen Towne wife.
the widow Ester Loynes.
the widow Mary Clark.

the widow Mary towne.
Mr. John Cree wife.
Mr. Phillip Neeland wife.
Mrs. Cathiriene Wildes.
Mr. Symonds Bradstreets
wife.
Mr. Amoses Wildes wife.
Mr. John Rea wife.
Mr. Benjamin Eierland wife.

NOTE.—“Mrs.” as used above, means “Mistress;” an unmarried woman.

THE WOMEN FORTH SEAT BELOW.

Mr. Thomas Perkins wife.	Mrs. Catharine Perkins.
Mr. Ephram Towne wife.	Mrs. Sarah Gould.
Mr. John Baker wife.	the widow Dorothy Pricherd.
Mr. Joseph Towne wife.	the widow Sarah How.
Mr. Jacob Towne wife.	Mr. John Lefavers wife.
Mr. Stephen Adams wife.	Mrs. Elisabeth Perkins.
Mr. Betholomue Dweniel wife.	

THE WOMENS FIFTH SEAT BELOW.

Mr. William Gallop wife.	the widow hannah Ramsdiel.
Mr. Daniel Averell wife.	Mr. Enoch Perkins wife.
Mrs. Anna Whittinggam.	Mr. Thomas Wood wife.
Mrs. Jemime Towne.	Mr. Samuel Cree wife.

THE SIXTH SEAT BELOW.

Mrs. Anna Wallas.	Mrs. Keziah Perkins.
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THE WOMEN FIRST SEAT IN THE FRUNT GALLERY.

Mr. John Peobeadeys wife.	Mr. John Betcheller wife.
Mr. Moses Perkins wife.	Mr. David Baltch wife.
Mr. Joseph Perkins wife.	Mr. Jacob Peobedey wife.
Mr. John Baker wife.	Mr. Jacob Dweniel wife.
Mr. Daniel Townes wife.	Mrs. Rebaca Perkins.
Mr. Nathaniel Dormon wife.	

THE SECEND SEAT IN THE WOMENS FRUNT GALLERY.

Abigail Abbout.	Hannah Ramsdail.
Hulday hovey.	John Rea Wife.
Elisabath Gallup.	

THE WOMENS FRUNT BACK PUE IN THE GALLERY.

Mr. Robord Baltch wife.	Mrs. Prissilla Averell.
Mrs. Ruth Symonds.	Mr. Joseph Hoods wife.
Mrs. Lydia Lake.	Mr. Stephen Perkins wife.
Mrs Anna Estee.	Mrs. Lydia Neeland.
Mrs. Tabatha Fisk.	Mr. Olevor Towns wife.
Mrs. Ruth Dweniel.	Mr. Nemiah Towns wife.
Mr. Cornelous Baltch wife.	Mr. John Dweniels wife.
Mr. Elnathan Hoberds wife.	

NOTE:—"Mrs." as used above, means "Mistress;" an unmarried woman.

THE WEMENS FURST SEAT IN THE SIDE GALLERY.

Mr. Samuel Perkins wife.	Mrs. Elisabeth Peobeday.*
Mr. John Baltch wife.	Mrs. Mary Averell.*
Mr. Samuel Smiths wife.	Mr. Benjamin Kimbals wife.
Mr. Zebulon Perkins wife.	Mr. Daniel Hoods wife.
Mr. Abraham Hobbs wife.	the widow Mary Hood.
Mr. Stephen Foster wife.	Mr. Samuel Fisk wife.
Isaac Averell wife.	Mr. Jeremiah Towns wife.
Mr. Daniel Reddington wife.	Mr. Isaac Hobbs wife.
Mr. Daniel Porter wife.	Mr. Olver Perkins wife.
Mr. Daniel Estey wife.	Mr. Nathanel Fisk wife.
Mr. Davied Townes wife.	the widdow Lydia Hearick.
Mr. Solomon Dodges wife.	

THE WEMONS BACK PEU THE NORTH SIDE OF THE DORE
IN THE GALLERY.

Anna Symond.	Sarah Lake.
Heapsabath Wilds.	Rebaca Gould.
Mary Towne.	Hepzebath Symond.
Darkis Towne.	Ester Gould.
Mary Wildes.	Hannah Averell.
Jemime Fisk.	Hannah Wildes.
Phebe Dwaniel.	Susanna Gallop.

THE WEMONS BACK PEU THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE DORE
IN THE GALLERY.

Loses Wildes.	Hannah Clark.
Salla Peobedey.	Lydia Wildes.
Hannah Peobedy.	Elisabeth Ramsdill.
Susanna Towne.	Elisabeth Gould.
Prissilla Baker.	Rebaca Gallup.
Anna Towne.	Elisabeth Rea.
Hannah Dwaniel.	Rebaca Baltch.
Elisabath Dodge.	

*"Mrs." here means "Mistress;" an unmarried woman.

THE OLD OAK AT TOPSFIELD.

BY JOHN ROBINSON.

There is in Topsfield, on the rising ground and quite near a brook, in the damp pasture belonging to the Essex Agricultural Society, and near the Pingree farm, a tree which is probably the oldest and, in trunk circumference, the largest white oak in Essex County.* The tree is evidently on the decline and, unless properly pruned and otherwise cared for, it will, at no distant day, decay and die. It is a picturesque tree and if, by good fortune, it happened to be upon one of the many farms now being improved for country homes, it would be cherished as one of the most interesting features of the estate.

In 1875, this tree measured twelve feet and eleven inches in circumference at five feet from the ground and shaded a space seventy-five feet in diameter. At the same time the Francis Curtis oaks at Boxford, five in number, measured from ten feet and one inch to eleven feet and one inch in circumference at the same point. In 1890, the Topsfield oak measured thirteen feet and seven inches and in 1901, fourteen feet and three inches in circumference.

Emerson, in his *Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts*, after many careful comparisons, places the rate of growth of the white oak, at one inch in its diameter in five years after the tree is forty years old, with a somewhat greater increase before that. Using this estimate, the Topsfield oak would now be two hundred and eighty-five years old. Its own story, a

*For a picture of this tree, see *Topsfield Historical Collections*, Vol. VI, p. 67.

gain of sixteen inches in circumference in twenty-six years, would give it an age of two hundred and seventy-eight years. Averaging these estimates the tree may safely be regarded as two hundred and eighty-one years old. In this case the acorn from which this tree sprung germinated the year that the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock. It was a sapling when the town of Topsfield was settled; a large and vigorous tree when the farmers around it answered the call to arms in the War of the Revolution, and it has been spared from the axe to see this country become a nation of eighty million people, to say nothing of our imperial dependencies. This is not a fanciful picture but the story of the actual life of one tree.

A large white oak cut down some years since in Danvers showed two hundred and eleven rings of annual growth and one of the Francis Curtis oaks, felled within a few years, a tree about twelve feet in circumference, gave its age as about two hundred years.

Ancient trees are generally thought to be much older than they really are and it is quite probable that there is not now in Essex county any tree reaching three hundred years in age. Nor is it strange that there should be no very large or old oaks in the county, for when shipbuilding was at its height along our coast, every merchantable oak, capable of producing ships' knees or stern posts, was cut and sold for these purposes, so that no very aged oak,—no tree of the forest primeval,—now remains. Such oaks as we do possess, which are old, and which may be preserved still longer, ought to be cared for and saved and this old oak in the hill-side pasture at Topsfield seems to be the veteran oak of the county and its preservation should be a matter of public concern.

"LOWER CEMETERY" INSCRIPTIONS.

1833-1900.

COPIED BY GEORGE FRANCIS DOW.

At a town-meeting held May 9, 1825, the town voted that "a committee of five be chosen to consider the subject of purchasing one or more burying grounds," and Elijah Cummings, Jacob Towne, jr., Sylvester Cummings, Samuel Hood and Daniel Bixby were chosen. The committee presented its report on June 1st, following, and the town voted to "purchase land for a new burying ground, the proprietors of the burying ground near Reuben Smith's and near David Cummings, to be exempted from paying any part of the expense of purchasing the land or fencing the same."

April 3, 1826, the town instructed the selectmen to "look up some suitable place or places for a Burying ground." The following month the selectmen reported, favoring an enlargement of the old burying-ground near Merriam's corner, but the town voted not to accept their report. A year later, May 15, 1827, Joseph Gould, Luke Towne, William Munday, Joseph Batchelder and Daniel Hobbs, jr., were chosen a committee to purchase land "for one or two new Burying grounds," and on May 15, 1828, just a year later, the town voted "to accept a piece of land which part of the Committee have agreed to purchase of Maj. Cornelius B. Bradstreet for a Burying Ground." On July 4, 1828, the land was deeded to the town, the consideration being \$125.00. Aug. 29, 1833, the town voted not to build "a good and sufficient fence around the lot of land that the Town purchased of Cornelius

B. Bradstreet in the year 1828 for a new Burying Ground.' The following November, an effort was made to have the town vote to sell the land that had been purchased for the new burying-ground. The endeavor was a failure, and the meeting voted "to sanction the doings of the Committee wherein they have agreed for the fencing of said land."

March 4, 1835, the town made choice of Nehemiah Cleaveland, Jacob Towne, jr., and Royal A. Merriam "to divide into Family Lots, the New Burying Ground." The following report was presented by them at a town-meeting held May 4, 1835, when it was accepted and adopted.

"The undersigned, a committee appointed at a Town-meeting holden in Topsfield on the 4th day of March, 1835, to divide into family lots the new burying ground, ask leave to report that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and have divided said ground, and laid out one hundred and fifty-four lots, and numbered the same, reserving an alley of ten feet in width through the centre from the gate to the west end—also an alley of four feet in width around the whole ground by the wall, and also an alley of three feet in width between each row of lots as by plan annexed,—leaving a portion on each side of the centre alley at the east end of the ground to be appropriated hereafter as the board of Selectmen for the time being shall direct. Your committee further report the following rules & regulations to be observed by the inhabitants of this town in all future time, in the use & management of said burying ground.

RULE 1st.—It shall be the duty of the Town Clerk to record this report, including the number of each lot, as described on sale plan, in a book to be provided and kept for that purpose, and carefully deposite among the archives of the town the annexed plan of said burying ground.

RULE 2nd.—When the head of a family may wish to select one of the above named lots, he may apply to the Town Clerk, and having designated a lot, he shall write his name against the number chosen, and the lot so selected shall be forever appropriated to him, his family & posterity for the alone purpose of sepulture.

RULE 3rd.—No person will be allowed to use or occupy any part of said burying ground before making a selection of a lot as provided in the second rule. And all persons having selected a lot in said burying ground will be held duly to observe all the rules adopted by the town relating to the same.

RULE 4th.—It shall be lawful for the inhabitants of said town who feel an interest in said burying ground to plant around the same, ornamental trees inside of the wall, or on the outside of the wall adjoining the public highway, under the direction of one or more of the Selectmen of the town for the time being.

RULE 5th.—No person shall infringe upon any lot in which he is not interested, or upon any of the ground reserved for alleys.

RULE 6th.—All cattle are hereby prohibited said ground forever, unless it should hereafter be judged, by the Selectmen, to be necessary to pasture sheep upon it, and the Board of Selectmen for the time being, are hereby requested to consider themselves the special conservators of the said burying ground, and of all the above written rules.

N. CLEAVELAND, }
JACOB TOWNE, } Committee."
R. A. MERRIAM. }

May 4th, 1835.

The "Lower Cemetery," as it is generally known, has its entrance on the Boston and Newburyport turnpike (Boston street) near the corner of Maple street. The oldest inscription is upon a stone erected to the memory of Mrs. Lois R. Carter, who died Aug. 20, 1833.

INSCRIPTIONS.

Benj. Adams, | Died | Mar. 3, 1849, | Aged 37.

Benjamin A. | Died | Jan. 1, 1845, | \AE . 3 y'rs 8 m's | &
21 d'ys | — | Ruth E. | Died | Feb. 16, 1845, | \AE . 15
m'os, | children of | Benjamin & | Eliza G. | Adams.

Eliza Lake | Wife of | Benjamin Adams | Died Jan. 6,
1889, | Aged 72 Yrs. | Laterly wife of | David Porter.

Mrs. R. J. Adams. [Wooden sign.]

Andrew B. Balch, | died | June 24, 1865, | \AE . 62 yrs.
4 mo.

Edwin Wallace | Son of | Nehemiah & Mary | Ann Balch,
| died Mar. 6, 1838, | \AE . 6 mos.

Happy infant early blest,
Rest in peaceful slumber rest.

Eliza, | wife of | Benj. J. Balch, | died | Jan. 22, 1868, |
Aged 36 yrs. | & 8 mos.

George E. Balch | Died Jan. 11, 1874, | \AE . 35 yrs. | Alice
E. | Dau. of G. E. & Annie H. | Balch, | Died Feb. 6. 1874
| \AE . 4 yrs. 6 mos. | & 26 dys.

Hattie Webb, | Dau. of | Jeremiah & Mary E. | Balch |
Died July 5, 1853, | \AE . 3 yrs.

"Suffer little children to come unto me,
And forbid them not, for of such is the
Kingdom of heaven."

Hattie W. | died July 5, 1853 | aged 3 yrs. 1 mo. | Jeremiah P. | died May 24, 1856, | aged 13 mos. 12 dys. | Clarence L. | died Sept. 1, 1882, | aged 25 yrs. 4 mos. | children of Jeremiah & | Mary E. Balch. [Monument.]

Jeremiah P. | Son of | Jeremiah & Mary E. | Balch, Died May | 24th 1856, | Æt. 13 mos. 12 d's.

Bright beautiful being
we miss thee on earth;
We list for the sound
of thy innocent mirth,
But angels have borne thee
in silence away,
For us there is sorrow
for thee there is day.

John Balch, | died | October 21, 1837, | Æt. 61 yrs.

John C. Balch, | died | April 21, 1853, | Æt. 48 yrs. 5 mos.

Asleep in Jesus.

Mary, | Wife of | John Balch, | died Aug 23, 1856 | Æt. 76 yrs. 7 mos.

Mary Balch, | born | July 30, 1799, | died | May 18, 1873, | Æt. 73 yrs, 9 mos. 18 dys.

Mary A. | widow of | Nehemiah Balch, | Died April 3, 1889, | Aged 82 yrs. 9 mos. | & 11 ds.

"Not dead but sleepeth."

Moody Balch, | died | Nov. 16, 1852, | Æt. 58 yrs, & 9 ms.

Nehemiah Balch, | Died | Jan. 2, 1884, | Æt. 77 yrs.

Asleep in Jesus.

Perley Balch | died | May 2. 1858. Aged 75.

He was an honest man.

Rebecca P. | dau. of | John C. & Mary Ann | Balch, | died Mar. 20, 1864, | Æt. 26 yrs. 6 mos.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

Roger Balch, | died | Jan. 6, 1842, | Æt. 86 y's 7 m. | &
10 days.

Sarah | wife of Roger Balch, | died | Oct. 28, 1837, | Æt.
80 y's 3 m.

Sarah, | Wife of | Perley Balch, | died | March 23, 1865,
| Aged 76.

Blessed are the dead who die
in the Lord.

Hannah Jane | Bickers | died Aug. 29th 1845 | aged 6
years | 6th Child of J. P. & Ann | Bickers of Nova Scotia

By foreign hands her dying eyes were clos'd
By foreign hands her decent limbs compos'd
By foreign hands to her humble grave was borne
By her Parents lov'd By her Parents mourn'd

Asa Bradstreet, | Died | Jan. 2, 1851, | Æt. 39.

Walter, | son of | Asa & Nancy | Bradstreet | Died | Oct.
18, 1845, | Æ. 18 ms. 25 ds.

Walter O! shall we forget thee!
they tell us that now,
The grave damp is staining that
beautiful brow,
But thy bright form returns in the
silence of sleep
And we start from our slumber
to listen and weep.

Mrs. Judith Burt, | died | Sept. 16, 1854 | Aged 77.

Mrs. Lois R. | wife of | Mr. Sylvester Carter, | died | Aug.
20, 1833, | Æt. 34.

George W. Creelman, | 1790-1861. | Catherine W. Creel-
man, | 1800-1853. | Their children | Mary Elizabeth, | 1833-
1836. | Catherine Mary, | 1840-1842. | Emma Wentworth, |
1844-1853. [Monument]

Emma Augusta | dau. of | Harriet A. Crowell, | Died
Aug. 7, 1851, | Æt. 2, mos.

All beautiful she stayed awhile
and spent her little day.
Then sweetly gave her last bright smile
and gently past away.

Otis F. Dodge | Died | Mar. 7, 1865, | Æt. 23 yrs. 7 mos.
| & 19 days.

A member of Co. F,
2d. Mass. Vols.

Wm. P. Dodge, | died Oct. 8, 1842, | aged 32 y'rs, 5 mo's.

Ah! what is man? how soon his race is run.
Our journey here below is scarce begun,
E're time arrests us, fate demands the soul,
And to the monster Death, we yield the whole.

Hannah E. | Daughter of | Ebenezer & Ruth | Eastman,
died | Sept. 7, 1842, | Aged 2 Yrs.

Ruth E. | Daughter of | Ebenezer & Ruth | Eastman, died
| Jan. 8, 1843, | Aged 10 Mos.

Thomas, | Son of | Ebenezer & Ruth | Eastman, died |
Sept. 5, 1842, | Aged 6 Yrs.

Mrs | Abigail Fisk, | Wife of | Jonas Fisk, | Died | in
Danvers | May 10, 1880, | Aged 82 yrs. 4 mos. & 7 ds.

"Asleep in Jesus."

Amos Fisk | Died | Sept. 9, 1850, | Æt. 49.

Elsy Fisk, | Born | May 3, 1798. | Died | March 5, 1874.
| Aged 75 yrs. 10 mos. | & 2 days.

Rev. | Jonas Fisk, | Died | in Danvers | Oct. 3, 1879, |
Aged 74 yrs. | & 4 mos.

"Blessed are the dead
which die in the Lord."

Husband | Jonas Fisk, | Died Dec. 17, 1891, | Aged 46
Yrs. 6 Mos.

Dearest loved one, we have laid thee
In the peaceful grave's embrace,
But thy memory will be cherished
Till we see thy heavenly face.

It is better further on.

Mehitable, | Widow of the late | Nathaniel Fisk, | died |
Sept. 16, 1864, | Æt. 92.

Mercy Peabody | Wife of | Amos Fisk, | Died Aug. 15,
1885. | Aged 80 yrs. 2 mos. | & 4 ds.

Nathaniel Fisk | Died | Nov. 20, 1849, | Æt. 85.

Rebecca Fisk | Died | Dec. 12, 1848, | Æt. 37.

Charles J. P. Floyd | Died | June 1, 1890 | Aged 61 yrs. |
Member of | Co. F, 23^d Regt. | Mass. Vol's.

John C. F. | son of | Charles J. P. & Elizabeth C. | Floyd,
| Died June 17, 1859; | Aged 1 yr. 3 mos. | & 11 ds.

See! Israel's gentle shepherd stands,
With all engaging charms.
Hark! how he calls the tender lambs,
And folds them in his arms.

Mary H. | Dau't of | James & Elizabeth | Fuller | died
Oct. 19, 1840 | Aged 11 mos.

Mrs. Hannah Fullerton, | Died | May 1, 1855, | Æt. 63.

In Memory of | Sabra Getchell, | of Lyman Me. | Who
died at Topsfield | Oct. 1, 1837, | Æt. 21 yrs. & 5 ms.

Thus fades our sweetest comforts here,
Our dearest friends they disappear,
When the loud call from God is given,
They sleep in death to wake in heaven.

Charles L. Gunnison | Jan. 1, 1870, | Aug. 7, 1898.

John H. Gunnison | 1822-1897. | Co. G. 23 Reg. Mass.
Vols.

Ah! no more amid the battle
Shall thy heart exulting swell.

Ruth R. | Wife of | George W. Hubbard. | died | July 4,
1854, | aged 44 y'rs. | George H. | died Jan. 29, 1844.

In memory of | Elizabeth, | wife of | Isaac Killam. | Died
in Salem, Apr. 1, 1857. | Aged 83.

In Memory of | Capt. Isaac Killam, | who died | March 18,
1840; | Aged 68.

Mary L. F. | Killam* | dau. of | Benj. & Mary | Facett, |
born at | Northboro, Mass. | died at Topsfield, | May 7, 1842,
| Æ. 18 yrs.

A. A. Lake, | 1811-1892. | Mary A. his wife | 1812-1893.
[Monument]

A. A. Lake | 1839-1900. [Monument]

Eleazer Lake, | Died Dec. 9, 1844, | Æt. 66. | Ruth, his
wife | Died Aug. 13, 1846, | Æt. 66.

Farewell my dear children, we bid you adieu,
Our Saviour calls for us, unto him we must go;
To praise him in heaven, where angels adore,
And shout hallelujahs on Caanan's blest shore.

Enos Lake, | 1779-1844 | Anna his wife | 1783-1845 |
Zaccheus G. | their son | 1813-1835. [Monument]

Henry W. | only child | of Mr. Joel & Mrs. | Mehitabel
Lake, | died | April 7, 1834, | Aged 9 years & | 7 days.

Howard Wesley, | Son of | John B. & Amelia H. | Lake |
Died Oct. 12, 1859. | Æt. 3 y'rs, 8 mo's | & 22 d's.

Sweet child, thou art no more a blossom
of the earth,
But oh! our hearts, our stricken hearts,
lean to thee, love,
And thus they lean to heaven, for thou
art there.

James Lake, | died Nov. 6th 1857, | aged 77 years, | Also,
| Sally, | his wife | died Sept. 18th 1842, | aged 59 years.

Father. | John B. Lake | member of Co. F. | 23^d Reg't.
Mass. Vol's. | Died Feb. 9, 1878, | Aged 60 yrs. | & 11 mos.

Farewell but not forever,
We shall meet beyond the river.

Joel Lake | Died | May 1, 1860, | Æt. 56 yrs. 7 ms. | &
15 days.

Lizzie W. Lake, | 1841-1894. [Monument]

*Adopted daughter of Capt. Isaac Killam.

Mehitable, | Wife of | Joel Lake, | Died July 26, 1881, |
Aged 76 yrs, | 3 mos.

Marietta B, | Daughter of W. G. & | Mehitable Lake. |
Died Nov. 15, 1845. | Æt. 9 yrs, 11 mos. | & 2 days.

This tender bud the being of an hour,
We fast embraced; but ere the morning flower
Had half unfolded its engaging charms,
Was called from ours to Jesus arms.

Mehitable B. Lake | wife of | Wm. G. Lake, | died | July
24, 1891 | age 77 yrs.

"Dear is the spot where christians sleep,
And sweet the strains that angels pour,
Oh! why should we in anguish weep?
They are not lost, but gone before."

William G. Lake, | Died | January 10, 1853, | Æt. 44 yrs,
7 mos.

Elizabeth L. | Wife of Thomas | L. Lane, | died Oct. 22,
| 1845, | Æ. 24 Y'S.

Prepare for death and follow me.

Mary Ann, | dau. of Thomas L. | Lane, | died Oct. 2,
1844. | Æ. 1 year. | Also an infant | died May 6, 1845.

Not lost, but gone before.

Thomas L. Lane | Died | Dec. 29, 1856, | Æ. 40 yrs.

Elizabeth C. | Wife of | Joseph Lovett, | died Dec. 6, 1840,
| Æt. 25 yrs. & 8 m's.

Mother | Sarah A. Lovett, | died | Sept. 26, 1882, | Aged
70 y's. 11 m's. | Father | Joseph Lovett, | died | June 5 |
1865, | Aged 55 y's, 11 m's.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

John M. Lowell | 1844-1893. [Lake monument]

Catharine B. Morse, | widow of | Daniel Chapman, | died
May 26, 1890, | Æ. 81 yrs, 8 mos.

There the weary be at rest.

John Parkinson, | died | March 12, 1873, | Aged 71 yrs.

Mother | Abigail Peabody, | Born Jan. 26, 1808, | Died
Nov. 27, 1891, | Aged 83 yrs. 10 mos.

Her children arise up
and call her blessed.

In memory of | Mr. Daniel, | son of Mr. John & | Mrs.
Lydia Peabody, | who died | Nov. 12, 1833; | Æt. 36.

Rest weary wanderer rest, thy toils are o'er,
And doubt and fear and gloom oppress no more,
Supprised with joy while dust returns to dust,
The trembling spirit mounts and mingles with the just.

Miss | Deborah Peabody | died | Jan. 28, 1842, | Aged
82 yrs.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints."

Eben Peabody | died | Jan. 30, 1871, | Æt. 67 yrs. 3 mos.

He is not here, he has ascended to
the bosom of his Father and his God.

In memory of | Mr. | John Peabody, | who died | June 22,
1836. | Æt. 74.

Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord.

His sun from clouds broke forth with softened ray,
And faith and hope crowned all his closing day.

[Revolutionary soldier]

Lydia | widow of | John Peabody, | died Apr. 18, 1854, |
Æt. 89 yrs.

What no human eye hath seen,
What no mortal ear hath heard,
What no thought hath never been,
In its noblest flights confer'd,
This hath God prepared in store
For his people evermore.

Mary E. | Dau. of | Eben & Abigail | Peabody, | Died |
June 24, 1879, | Aged 36 yrs. & 9 mos.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

William Arthur, | Son of | Ebeneser & Abigail | Peabody
| Died Sept. 15, 1851, | Æt. 2 yrs.

This lovely bud, so young and fair,
Called home by early doom,
Just came to show how sweet a flower
In heaven above shall bloom.

In memory of | Abigail Jane, | Daughter of | Mr. Thomas
and | Mrs. Sarah Perkins, | who died | Oct. 24, 1839; Aged
17.

This lovely bud, so young and fair;
Called hence by early doom
Just came to show how sweet a flower,
In Paradise would bloom.

Abigail S. | Wife of Robert S. | Perkins, | Died | Sept. 9,
1845, | Æ. 22 y's.

Thou too must die, Prepare! Prepare!

Albert S. | Son of | Nathaniel & Lucy P. | Perkins, | Died
| April 11, 1846; | Aged 10 Months.

Frail smiling solace
of an hour.

Amos Perkins, | died | Sept. 8, 1851, | Æt. 63 yrs. 7 mos.
| Betsey, | wife of | Amos Perkins, | Died Sept. 12, 1872, |
Æt. 82 yrs. 5 mos. | Emily A, | Dau. of | Amos & Betsey |
Perkins, | Died Nov. 26, 1846, | Æt. 20 yrs. [Monument]

Amos Perkins | died | Nov. 29, 1894, | Æt. 83 y'rs, 10 m's
& 17 d'ys.

"Rest, aged saint! Thy pilgrim staff lay down,
Now take the palm branch and the blood
bought crown."

Augusta L. | wife of | George H. Perkins, | Died | Aug.
20, 1860, | Æt. 28 y'rs, 8 mo's.

Calm on the bosom of thy God,
Sweet spirit rest thee now!
E'er while with us thy footsteps trod,
His seal was on thy brow.

Benjamin Perkins | Died | April 2, 1858, | Æt. 72 yrs. |
Lucy A Cole, | died Jan. 24, 1844, | Æt. 26 yrs.

Dudley Perkins, | Died | Sept. 2, 1879, | Aged 83 yrs. 9 mos. | & 27 dys.

In memory of | Elijah Perkins, | Who died | Oct. 31, 1851, | Æt. 86.

Esther J. | Dau. of | Amos & Betsey | Perkins, | Died. Aug. 11, 1854, | Æt. 22 yrs. [Monument]

Eunice, | Wife of | Amos Perkins, | died | Dec. 31, 1878, | Æt. 67 y'rs, 3 m's & 10 d'ys.

Ezra Perkins, | Died Apr. 26, 1859. | Aged 80 yrs. | Elizabeth, | His wife, | Died Apr. 9, 1850, | Aged 69 yrs.

George C. | son of | Nath^l Jr. & Lucy | Perkins, | Died | Dec. 28, 1858, | Æt, 20 y'rs, 10 ms.

So fair, so young, so gentle, so sincere,
So loved, so early lost, demands a tear.

Judith, | wife of | Nathaniel Perkins, | Died | Apr. 29, 1858, | Æt, 70.

Lucy P. | Wife of | Nathaniel Perkins, Jr. | Died | Nov. 1, 1888. | Aged 75 yrs. 6 ds.

Asleep in Jesus! Blessed sleep.

Lydia, | Wife of | William B. Perkins. | Died Feb. 3, 1876, | Aged 77 yrs, | & 9 mos.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Mary Elizabeth | Daughter of | Dudley & Sarah Perkins, died | Oct. 24, 1844, | Aged 16 Yrs. | and 3 Months.

Deep in the cold and silent grave,
We've laid the form we loved so well,
Her life no earthly power could save,
Her spirit here no more shall dwell.

Mehitable K. | Daughter of | Thomas & Sarah | Perkins, | died Dec. 12, 1841, | Æt. 21.

We may weep as her soft eyes lustrous
light is forever lost on earth.

Mr. Nathaniel | Perkins Jr. | Died | Jan. 22, 1846 | Æ. 32
y'rs.

All, all on earth is shadow;
All beyond is substance.

Nathaniel Perkins, | Died | Aug. 31, 1854, | Aged 68.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Rodney D. Perkins, | Died | Aug. 31, 1859. | Æt, 38 y'rs,
6 mo's.

He's gone! the voyage of human life is o'er.
And weeping friends shall see his face no more.
Far from the tenderest objects of his love.
He dies, to find a happier world above.
Around this monument his friends appear.
To embalm his precious memory with a tear.

Mrs. Ruth, | Wife of | Elijah Perkins, | Died | Aug. 3,
1836, | Aged 69 Yrs. | and 3 Months.

In Memory of | Mrs. Sarah, | Wife of | Mr. Thomas Per-
kins, | who died | Nov. 24, 1837; | Aged 54.

Far from affliction, toil and care,
The happy soul has fled;
The breathless day shall slumber here
Among the silent dead.

Sarah, | wife of | Dudley Perkins, | Died Dec. 2, 1874, |
Aged 81 yrs, | & 5 mos.

Thomas Perkins, | Died | May 23, 1841, | Æt, 61.

He is not here—his soul has fled,
To realms of endless day;
Jesus the friend of all, has said,
To heaven I lead the way.

William B. Perkins, | died | December 5, 1868, | Aged 62
yrs. | & 8 mos.

A husband kind, a Father dear,
A true friend lies sleeping here.

William P. | Son of | Amos & Betsey | Perkins, | Died Nov.
17, 1852, | Æt. 24 yrs. [Monument]

Joseph R. | son of Moses E. & | Lydia W. Pettengill, |
died | Aug. 17, 1856, | \AA t. 5 mo's.

Beloved of my bosom, go!
Jesus calls thee hence away.
While I mourn thy loss below,
Thou dost dwell in endless day.

Lydia W. | wife of | Moses E. Pettengill | Feb. 22, 1828 |
July 13, 1897 | Gone home | Mother.

Moses E. Pettengill, | Died | Dec. 2, 1857, | Aged 32.

Thy bright form has fled from earth,
When thou wert doubly dear;
And when we learned to know thy worth
Thou wert no longer here.

John Hood, | son of Timothy M. & | Adeline G. Phillips, |
died | Nov. 9, 1844, \AA t. 2 yrs. 10 ms, | & 10 days.

Mr. | John Phillips, | Died | Sept. 24, 1840 | Aged 28.

Strong were the ties that bound thee here,
To many friends, to some most dear;
Sudden and awful was the stroke,
These tender earthly ties that broke,
Thy name, thy worth, through years untold,
Undying memory shall hold.

Rebecca Gould, | Infant Daughter of | Timothy M. and |
Adeline G. Phillips | died March 1, 1844, | Aged 23 days. |
Also their Infant Son.

Happy infants early bless'd,
Rest in peaceful slumber rest,
Early rescu'd from the cares,
Which increase with growing years.

In memory of | Sarah P. | wife of | Asa B. Pingree, | who
died | July 2, 1851; | \AA t. 43.

Calm on the bosom of thy God,
Fair spirit, rest thee now;
E'en while with us thy footsteps trod
His seal was on thy brow.

Dust to its narrow house beneath,
Soul to its place on high;
They that have seen thy look in death
No more may fear to die.

Mother | Anne Eliza | wife of | Benjamin Poole | born |
Sept. 1, 1819, | died | Apr. 30, 1892.

Benjamin Poole jr | born Oct. 12, 1843, | died July 28,
1882.

Orlando B. Poole | Born Apr. 6, 1845, | Died July 12,
1897.

Eliza Lake | Wife of | Benjamin Adams | Died Jan. 6,
1889, | Aged 72 Yrs. | Laterly wife of | David Porter.

Rev. Henry Pratt, | Born | Salisbury, Ct. | Jan. 11, 1825. |
Died | Topsfield | Apr. 19, 1880.

"And he was not; for
God took him."

Mary J. Ray | Died | Oct. 25, 1859, | Æt. 59 yrs. 4 mo's.

Anna Rea | Died | Dec. 18, 1863, | Æt. 86 Years.

Israel Rea, | Died | April 23, 1839, | Aged 77.

Lois L. Rea, | Wife of | Israel Rea, | Died June 12, 1835,
| aged 66.

Lucy C. Stone | Wife of | Dexter Rollins. | Born Feb. 5,
1835, | Died Feb. 28, 1878.

Mrs. Anna B. Stanwood | died Oct. 22, 1842; | aged 52.

Sleep form beloved, thy spirit
Hath pass'd from earth away,
And now enjoys the christian's rest
Mid realms of endless day.

In Memory of | Mrs. Lucy P. Stone, | Wife of | Mr. Oren
J. Stone, | who died | Feb. 19, 1842; | Aged 30.

Charles Sweeney, | Died Jan. 7, 1871, | Aged 78 Yrs, |
His Wife | Anna H. Sweeney, | Died Feb. 24, 1893, | Aged
83 Yrs. 4 mos.

Eleanor A. Sweeney | wife of | John H. Gunnison | 1835-
1878.

Miles Sweeney, | Died March 25, 1876, | Aged 79 Yrs.
9 Mos. | His Wife | Huldah Lake, | Died April 15, 1883, |
Aged 76 Yrs. 11 Mos.

Our Parents.

Out of darkness into light.*

Elbridge G. Towne | Died May 16, | 1848, | aged 38 yrs.

Death hath conquered me,
And by its darts I'm slain,
But Christ has conquered thee,
And I shall rise again.

Jacob Towne, | Died | April 30, 1835, | Aged 84. | Martha, | His Wife, | Died July 30, 1861, | Aged 78.

There is rest for the weary.

In Memory of | Mrs. Mary A. Wallace, | Widow of the late | Joshua Wallace | of Beverly, | who died | March 7, 1843; | Aged 32.

James Waters | Died Nov. 2, 1885, | Aged 55 yrs.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see God.

Catherine K. Wells, | Aug. 27, 1817. | June 19, 1896.

At rest.

In Memory of | Miss | Eunice B. Wells, | who died | Sept. 13, 1838, | Aged 30 Yrs. | and 6 months.

Blessed are the dead, who
die in the Lord.

Nathaniel B. Wells, | Died | Mar. 22, 1859, | Aged 89 yrs.
| Ruth J. Wells, | Died | Apr. 26, 1855, | Aged 71 yrs. | 9 mos.

William H. Wildes | Died Feb. 2, 1872, | Æt. 28 yrs.
2 ms. 5 ds. | A member of Co. C. 2nd | Regt. Mass. Vols. |
Freddie W. | only son of | Wm. H. & Dora Wildes | Died
Apr. 25, 1872, | Æt. 10 ms. 25 ds.

Ashes for beauty, by the grave is given.
Beauty for ashes, is the change for Heaven.

Our darling | Willie.

Suffer little children
to come unto me.

*This stone was erected to the memory of Eben Towne, who died July 11, 1858, aged 75 years; and his wife, Lydia (Averill) Towne, who died Nov. 27, 1859, aged 78 years.

TOPSFIELD VILLAGE IN 1800.

BY SIDNEY PERLEY.

The frontispiece of this volume is a map of the village of Topsfield, as it was in 1800. It is based on actual surveys and title deeds, and is drawn on a scale of forty-five rods or seven hundred and fifty feet to an inch. It shows the location of houses that were standing within the territory included in the map in 1800.

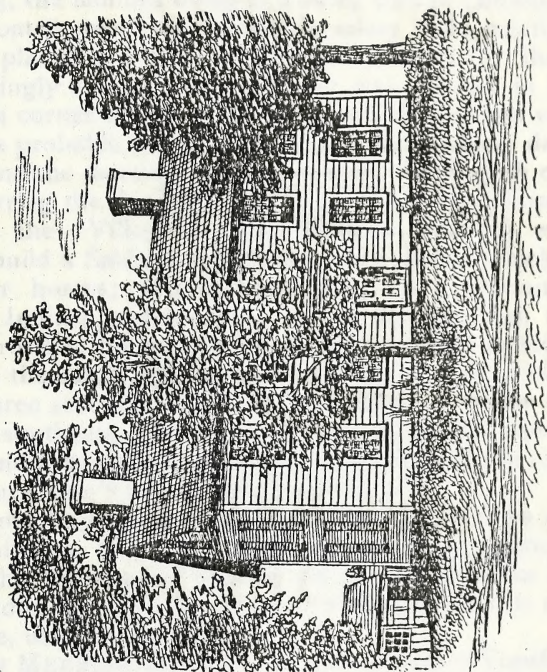
The main street was a highway probably before 1668.

March 16, 1668-9, what is now Haverhill street, was laid out "from Topsfield meeting house, along vnder the North East Syde of the Hill called bare Hill, along as the trees are marked, over the brooke by Ephraim Dormans House, and so along the plaine, called the Pine plaine, trees being marked, to the end of Baker's Pond, and over the brooke at the pond end, by William Pritchetts house as the trees are marked, vnto the high way y^t comes betweene Andover and Ipswich and so along that High way."* In 1669, also, was laid out the Boxford road from Endecott's farm on the north side of Ipswich river in Boxford, past Kinsman's corner, on the north side of the common land, to the meeting-house in the burying-ground.†

In the sketches that follow, titles and deeds referred to pertain to the houses and land under and adjoining them, and not always to the whole lot, the design being to give the history of the houses standing in 1800.

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 305.

†See records of Salem Quarterly Court, 1666-1679, leaf 24.



THE MERRIAM-TODD HOUSE.

THE BURYING-GROUND. This burying-ground is quite old, though the oldest stone remaining there, which bears an intelligible date, is marked "1717." Previous to the year 1663, the meeting-house is said to have been located not far from the "Dry Bridge", and near the cellar of the Sylvanus Wildes house, but when Rev. Thomas Gilbert was settled, Nov. 4, 1663, the families living in Rowley Village (Boxford) agreed to contribute to the minister's salary if the meeting-house was placed at a more convenient location for them, and accordingly a new meeting-house was erected in the southeastern corner of this burial place, which was then very small. It is probable that the opening of the cemetery dates from the time the meeting-house was built, the English custom of interring the dead around the church being followed.

In 1672, the "Villagers" (the Boxford settlers) were allowed to build a Sabbath-day-house and a shed in which to shelter their horses; and in Sept. 1675, as a precaution against the Indians, a stone wall, five or six feet high and three feet broad at the bottom, was built around the meeting-house. On the south side the wall was twelve feet, and on the other three sides ten feet from the building. Within this wall, at the southeast corner, a watch-house, ten feet square, was built, and this was called, in the beginning of the eighteenth century, the "Old meeting house fort."

This old meeting-house stood here until 1703, when a new one was built on the site of the present Congregational church on the "Common," and the old one was sold for five pounds to John Gould, who removed it near to what is now the turnpike, using it for a barn.

DR. JOHN MERRIAM HOUSE. Thomas Foster of Topsfield conveyed this field of twelve and a half acres to Dr. John Merriam of Topsfield, Feb. 11, 1796;* and upon it the purchaser immediately erected the house now standing there, and shown in the accompanying engraving. The estate passed to the ownership of Dr. Royal A. Merriam, who conveyed the house and lot, Feb. 14, 1856, to Samuel Todd,† who owned the place until his death.

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 172, leaf 30.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 527, leaf 45.

DANIEL PERKINS HOUSE. Daniel Hood of Topsfield, housewright, perhaps owned a half interest in this lot, and the large lot of Dr. John Merriam adjoining, June 1, 1778, when he bought a half interest in the same of Oliver Perkins of Topsfield, yeoman, for one hundred pounds.* Mr. Hood erected the house now known as the Conant house, and shown in the accompanying engraving, immediately following his purchase. He occupied the house and land until March 31, 1784, when he sold the estate to Dr. John Merriam of Topsfield.†

Dr. Merriam conveyed the house and little lot on which it stood to Daniel Perkins of Salem, mariner, Oct. 9, 1797.‡ and removed to his new house across the street. Mr. Perkins died in 1800, while returning from Batavia, on the *Franklin*, of which he was second-mate. He was a native of Topsfield; and had for many years dispensed liquors at the Sun Tavern in Salem. He was probably unmarried, as he devised this house and lot to his sisters Hannah and Peggy Perkins of Topsfield. They conveyed the house and lot to Aaron Conant of Topsfield, trader, June 18, 1806;§ and the estate remained in the possession of this family until Sept. 29, 1888, when it was sold to Mrs. Carrie F. Clerk, who afterwards married Philip Palmer.

SIMON BRADSTREET LOT. This lot belonged to Simon Bradstreet of Topsfield, laborer, in 1778. There was a small house upon it that he had bought of Stephen Waters before 1784. May 7, 1787, Mr. Bradstreet conveyed the house to Thomas Emerson of Topsfield, gentleman.|| Mr. Emerson probably removed the house to his land across the street, the present Andrews house perhaps being the house. The house probably continued in the possession of Mr. Emerson until his death in 1813. His estate was sued by Sarah Ann Emerson of Danvers, singlewoman, and this small house and the land around it was assigned to her in satisfaction of her execution, Aug. 31, 1832.¶ She conveyed the house and land to Nehemiah Cleaveland, Esq., and Moses Wildes, gen-

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 142, leaf 224.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 142, leaf 225.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 162, leaf 247.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 178, leaf 303.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 146, leaf 289.

¶Records of Executions, book 6, leaf 127.

tleman, both of Topsfield, Aug. 20, 1833.* Upon the death of Thomas Emerson in 1813, under his will this house and land descended to his son Billy Emerson who mortgaged it in 1830, to Messrs. Cleaveland and Wildes,† and March 21, 1834, they sold it to John Emerson of Norwich, Vt.‡ June 2, 1835, John Emerson conveyed the house and land to Gilbert Brownell of Boston, merchant.§ In 1843, Messrs. Cleaveland and Wildes released the premises to Mr. Brownell.|| The house was known as the Falls house, June 20, 1850, when Mr. Brownell conveyed it with a small lot of land, to Elisha P. Andrews of Topsfield,¶ in whose family the title has since been.

THOMAS EMERSON HOUSE. The proprietors of the common lands in Topsfield, for fourteen pounds, conveyed the southern end of this lot (two acres and twenty rods) to Rev. John Emerson of Topsfield, March 7, 1733.** Mr. Emerson died in 1774, having devised the mansion-house to his son Thomas Emerson. Thomas, died in 1813, having devised it to his son Billy Emerson, who erected the present house, three stories in height, retaining a part of the old house, said to be the Parson's study, in the present structure. Billy Emerson mortgaged it in 1830,† and Mehitable Emerson, widow of Thomas Emerson, to whom it had been assigned, conveyed the estate to Gilbert Brownell, June 5, 1835.†† The house was occupied by Billy Emerson as long as he lived. He died Nov. 2, 1835. Mr. Brownell conveyed the estate to Humphrey Balch of Topsfield, gentleman, July 9, 1852;‡‡ and it has remained in the possession of the family of the latter ever since.

CAPEN HOUSE. This house was built on land granted by the town to Rev. Joseph Capen, and laid out to him Feb. 28, 1682-3. The lot contained twelve acres; and the house was

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 275, leaf 124.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 257, leaf 198.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 275, leaf 125.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 281, leaf 162.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 351, leaves 285 and 286.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 430, leaf 25.

**Essex Registry of Deeds, book 65, leaf 269.

††Essex Registry of Deeds, book 286, leaf 215.

‡‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 463, leaf 200.

probably built within a few years.* Here Mr. Capen subsequently lived. He died July 30, 1725, and the house and land descended to his children, becoming the property of his son Nathaniel, who conveyed the "old house", and land around it, to John Baker of Boxford, yeoman, March 17, 1746.† Mr. Baker conveyed the estate to Edmund Putnam of Danvers, Feb. 24, 1753.‡ Mr. Putnam came here and lived until he conveyed the house and lot to Rev. John Emerson of Topsfield, May 10, 1758.§ Mr. Emerson died in 1774, and in his will devised his real estate to his son Thomas Emerson, who died in 1813, having devised this estate to his son Joseph Emerson. He says in his will, which was made nearly two years before he died, "I am preparing to build a house and barn on this lot for my said son Joseph." Joseph Emerson died June 17, 1826, and the estate descended to his daughter, Harriet J., who became the wife of the late Charles H. Holmes, Esq., in whose family and estate the title has since remained.

AVERILL HOUSE. This house stood a short distance south from the Capen house. The site was a part of the homestead of Rev. Joseph Capen, and was conveyed by his son Nathaniel Capen of Topsfield, joiner, to Nathaniel Moulton of Ipswich, cordwainer, Sept. 27, 1737.|| He probably built the house that afterward stood there the next year, and, Oct. 31, 1741, when he was of Andover, he conveyed the land and buildings to Francis Simons of Topsfield, weaver.¶ Mr. Simons conveyed the house and lot to Nathaniel Fuller, jr., of Ipswich, tailor, March 3, 1741-2.** Mr. Fuller removed to Groton, Mass., and sold the estate to Ruth Somes, widow

*The following appears upon the church records. "May 24, [16]86. At a Church meeting at my house were chosen two Deacons, Isaak Cumins & Nehemiah Abbot, my Landlord and goodman Estie being also in nomination." It will be noticed that the "Parson" speaks of "my house" and yet mentions "my Landlord", as though he was then occupying a rented house. For picture of this house, see Topsfield Hist. Colls., Vol. VI., p. 49.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 91, leaf 36.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 98, leaf 210.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 113, leaf 103.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 80, leaf 128.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 82, leaf 97.

**Essex Registry of Deeds, book 82, leaf 98.

of Ebenezer Somes, late of Gloucester, then of Topsfield, Dec. 9, 1743.* Isaac Fitts married Mrs. Somes, and lived in Danvers. June 3, 1752, they conveyed the house and lot to Jacob Averill, jr., of Topsfield, joiner.† The place remained in the Averill family until about 1805, when it was conveyed to Thomas Emerson, who probably took the house down about 1812.

THE COMMON. This is "common and undivided land" and was the training-field of the early days, and is mentioned as such from 1731 to 1811.

THE MEETING-HOUSE. The first meeting-house to occupy this site was erected in 1703. This was a small hill, which was then cut down to make a suitable location for the meeting-house, which was forty-four feet long and forty-two wide. The pulpit and some of the timbers of the old meeting house were used in the construction of the new. In 1760, it was superseded by another on the same site. This also passed away in 1843 when the present one was completed, the old one being carried to Salem, where, on Boston street, it has done useful service as a tannery for over fifty years.

SCHOOL HOUSE. The school house, in which was kept the Middle school in 1800, stood at the right of the meeting-house. It was built in 1795, and this and a succeeding building that stood on the Town Hall site, were used until 1868, when the Academy building was purchased by the town and used for the public schools.

JACOB KIMBALL HOUSE. Rev. John Emerson sold this lot to Isaac Fitts in 1749, and the latter's widow, Ruth Fitts of Danvers, conveyed it to Jacob Kimball, jr., blacksmith, Oct. 28, 1755.‡ Mr. Kimball built thereon the present house. May 12, 1803, he conveyed one-half of the house and lot to his son Benjamin Kimball, of Topsfield, blacksmith;§ and Benjamin conveyed it to Moses Wildes, jr., of Topsfield, blacksmith, March 5, 1808.|| The father died in 1812; and his son Jacob Kimball, Esq., conveyed the remaining half-interest to Mr. Wildes, April 3, 1813.¶ The

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 100, leaf 262.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 96, leaf 249.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 104, leaf 101.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 171, leaf 287.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 182, leaf 235.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 199, leaf 172.

place has remained in the Wildes family until within a few years. Jacob Kimball was born in this house in 1761, and graduated at Harvard College in 1780. He practised law at Amherst, N. H., and was noted as a composer of music, being the author of the "Rural Harmony", 1793; and "Essex Harmony", 1800. The blacksmith's shop of Wildes and the Kimballs stood on the opposite side of the road from the house.

SAMUEL HOOD HOUSE. This was the site of the tavern of Daniel and Dan Clark, and was probably the same house that had stood here more than a century. It was the property of Daniel Clark in 1698, of Dan Clark in 1755, and of Daniel Clark in 1765. Daniel Clark of Topsfield, gentleman, conveyed the estate to Thomas Porter of Topsfield, gentleman, April 10, 1781,* and removed to the West Parish of Rowley (now the town of Georgetown), living where the late residence of T. G. Elliott stands. Mr. Porter conveyed the place to Rev. Daniel Breck, then pastor of the church here, May 10, 1781.† Mr. Breck conveyed the house and lot to Samuel Hood of Topsfield, housewright, May 3, 1786.‡ Mr. Hood lived here, and conveyed the house, barn and land to John Rea, 3d, of Topsfield, trader, May 2, 1821.§ Mr. Rea conducted a tavern here until the buildings were entirely burned by an incendiary on the night of Oct. 16, 1836.||

THOMAS PERKINS HOUSE. This was the house of Zaccheus Perkins in 1713, and became the property of his son, Thomas Perkins, before 1731. The latter was a blacksmith, and died in 1786, having devised his real estate to his son Thomas, who was also a blacksmith. Thomas conveyed this house and lot to Samuel Hood of Topsfield, housewright, July 2, 1810.¶ Mr. Hood sold the buildings and land to Edmund Parker of Topsfield, and John H. Larned of Cambridge, Aug. 27, 1810,** and they conveyed the same to William Hubbard and Zaccheus Gould, jr., of Topsfield,

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 141, leaf 77.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 141, leaf 78.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 145, leaf 158.

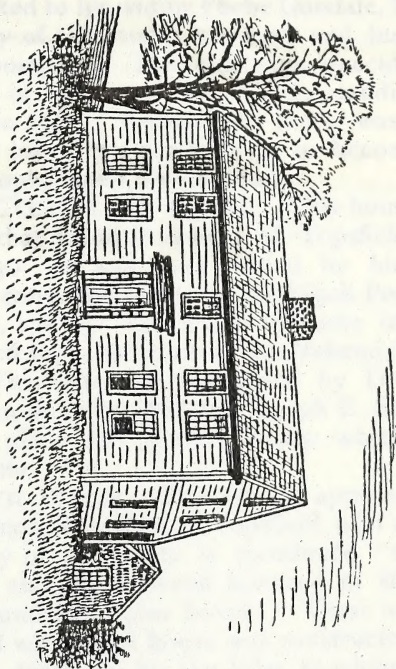
§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 226, leaf 114.

¶See Topsfield Hist. Colls., Vol. I., pp. 7, 30.

¶¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 191, leaf 51.

**Essex Registry of Deeds, book 191, leaf 159.

THE PERKINS-HUBBARD HOUSE



April 13, 1812.* The property is now owned by Job H. Frame.

JOHN BAKER (CELLAR) LOT. Zaccheus Perkins of Topsfield, yeoman, conveyed this lot to Thomas Goodale of Topsfield, joiner, Nov. 22, 1713.† Mr. Goodale mortgaged it, with a house thereon, in 1718.‡ Administration on his estate was granted to his widow Phebe Goodale, Nov. 7, 1720. In the inventory of the estate, his land and buildings were subject to a mortgage. The mortgage executed in 1718, was discharged in 1721, and the house, standing in 1724, was gone before 1761. Perhaps this house was removed to the John Baker lot on the north, there to become the ell of the J. Porter Gould house about 1800.

NEHEMIAH CLEAVELAND HOUSE. This house was probably the same that Jacob Robinson of Topsfield, died possessed of in 1730. It was next owned by his son Jacob Robinson who conveyed the estate to Elijah Porter of Topsfield, March 28, 1761.§ Mr. Porter became involved, and the estate passed into the hands of Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland about 1795. The house was remodeled by Dr. Cleaveland and finally taken down in 1873 by Joseph E. Stanwood who erected in its place the present house which is now the Children's Home.

DAVID BALCH HOUSE. This lot was apparently a part of the estate of Jacob Robinson of Topsfield, who died in 1730. In the inventory of his estate is mentioned "timber for a dwelling house and about eleven hundred of slit work and eight or nine hundred of pine board." These were probably the materials of which this house was constructed, soon after Mr. Robinson's death, by his son John, to whom this lot had been released by the heirs. John Robinson lived in Topsfield, being a husbandman, and conveyed this estate to David Balch of Topsfield, yeoman, April 26, 1734.|| He removed to Nottingham-West, N. H. Mr. Balch died in 1769, having devised the estate to his son David. David Balch, jr., was a

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 195, leaf 292.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 26, leaf 231.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 37, leaf 169.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 119, leaf 175.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 73, leaf 173.

tanner, and died in 1787, having devised his real estate to his sons, David, Thomas and Joshua. The tanyard was across the road. The estate came into the hands of David, who died in 1812, and from him its title descended to his son Abraham, who lived upon it and died possessed of it a few years ago. The house has since been transformed into a barn, and the property is now owned by Charles V. Jackman. The house was one of the ancient lean-to houses, similar in design to the Thomas Perkins house shown on page 137.

AMMUNITION USED BY TOPSFIELD MEN AT THE CONCORD FIGHT, 1775.

COMMUNICATED BY CHARLES WOODBERRY.

[From Massachusetts Archives, Vol. 157, page 519.]

Province of the Massachusetts Bay.	}	To the Honorable the general Court. Com ^{tee} Accounts Now Setting at Watertown.
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The Selectmen of Topsfield hereby Exhibit for allowance the account of the powder and Lead that the Said Selectmen Delivered out of the Town Stock, to the Minute men and Others, to the Number of Thirty Two in the whole—and all of this Town. It being, what they Expended in the Engagement with the Ministerial Troops, on their Retreat from Concord on the Nineteenth day of April last.

Viz. One quarter of a pound of Powder to each
man, Amounting in the whole to Eight
pounds of powder 8^{lb}

And also to each man Twelve Leaden Bul-
lets Amounting in w^t to Seventeen pounds 17^{lb}

By Order of the Selectmen of Topsfield

p^r Sam^l Smith.

Topsfield, April the 11th 1776.

VITAL STATISTICS OF TOPSFIELD, MASS.,

FOR THE YEAR 1901.

BIRTHS.

1901.

- Jan. 5. Frederick Osborne, son of Jacob J. and Lucy Helen (Lake) Hardy.
Jan. 19. John Kenneth, son of John Henry and Lucy May (Kneeland) Bradstreet.
Feb. 11. Roger Masury, son of Harlan S. and Maud (Fuller) Pierce.
Feb. 23. Roland Merritt, son of Henry H. and Catherine J. (Chisholm) Roberts.
May 19. Esther, dau. of Charles and Bertha Agnes (Lacy) Curtis.
July 18. Emma Josephine, dau. of Thomas F. and Fannie F. (O'Dea) Cass.
Aug. 15. ———, son of Benjamin W. and Lucy R. (Pingree) Fuller.
Aug. 24. Nellie Gray, dau. of Alexander and Mary Jane (Gray) Ogg.
Sept. 2. Robert Burnap, son of Gaius B. and Bertha A. (Whitney) Frost.
Sept. 18. Melvin Phillippe, son of Walter R. and Charlotte D. (Clancey) Thomas.
Sept. 30. Margaret Batchelder, dau. of Gilbert S. and Jeanie (McMeekin) Mason.
Nov. 20. Viola Christina, dau. of Merritt Lynly and Ida Brigeta Gustava (Nelson) Hobson.
Dec. 30. Sidney Maurice, son of Harry Walter and Bessie Rebecca (Phillips) Gilman.

MARRIAGES.

1901.

- Jan. 27. { John Fitz Gibbons (Topsfield), son of James and Mary (Welch) Gibbons.
 { Anna Roach (Topsfield), dau. of Thomas and Catherine (O'Brien) Roach.
June 3. { Harry Walter Gilman (Rochester, N. Y.), son of Harry Walter and Mary Burnice (Peabody) Gilman.
 { Bessie Rebecca Phillips (Topsfield), dau. of Erwin Timothy and Ruth Gould (Lake) Phillips.

MARRIAGES (Continued.)

1901		
June	11.	{ Oliver Thayer (Topsfield), son of Edward Smith and Catherine Jewett (Felt) Thayer. Susie May Alden (Topsfield), dau. of Charles and Susan Emery (Peterson) Alden.
June	15.	{ Arthur Franklin Upton (Topsfield), son of Stephen Franklin and Lucy Adaline (Stanton) Upton. Elizabeth Kimball Watson (Derry, N. H.), dau. of Frank and Alversia (Varnum) Watson.
June	25.	{ Herbert Porter Woodbury (Topsfield), son of Isaac Morgan and Sarah Kimball (Leach) Woodbury. Carrie Lillian Mellish (Salem), dau. of Rev. Isaac Murray and E. A. (Holman) Mellish.
July	8.	{ George Roderick Deering (Topsfield), son of William A. and Margaret C. (Manning) Deering. Mary Ann McQuarrie (Fall River, Mass.), dau. of Murdick and Christy (Fraser) McQuarrie.
July	25.	{ Andy Fondrain Jackman (Topsfield), son of Charles V. and Mary Ella (Underwood) Jackman. Lottie Drew Curtis (Boxford, Mass.), dau. of George W. and Mercy Coburn (Drew) Curtis.
Sept.	7.	{ Harrison Chester Ashley (Topsfield), son of Lewis Moore and Sarah Jane (Lamson) Ashley. Addie Potter (Topsfield), dau. of Nathaniel and Mary (Mack) Potter.
Oct.	23.	{ Elton Eugene Wildes (Topsfield), son of Eugene Lamont and Alatheia Orietta (Lamson) Wildes. Carrie Baker Kimball (Ipswich, Mass.), dau. of Nathaniel Scott and Elizabeth Brown (Mahon) Kimball.
Nov.	20.	{ Charles Lemine Blake, Jr. (Waverley, Mass.), son of Charles Lemine and Elizabeth Stevens (Pratt) Blake. Alice Gertrude Smerage (Topsfield), dau. of Fred and Ella Augusta (Chapman) Smerage.
Dec.	11.	{ Manuel Frederick Castle (Topsfield), son of Joseph and Frances (Enos) Castle. Florence May Brown (Topsfield), dau. of Clarence Leland and Julia (Watton) Brown.

DEATHS.

1901.

Jan.	14.	Elizabeth Maria, widow of Benjamin Deland and dau. of Frederick and — (Bickford) Ross, aged 81 y. 3 m. 21 d.
Mar.	8.	Obediah Hill, son of John and Elizabeth (Knapp) Hill, aged 68 y. 5 d.
Mar.	13.	James Orrington Purinton Jenkins, son of Frank Damon and Mary Christena (Nelson) Jenkins, aged 7 m. 19 d.

DEATHS (Continued.)

1901.

- Apr. 23. Abbie E., wife of Robert Foss and dau. of John and Hannah M. (Story) Whipple, aged 46 y. 10 d.
- May 22. Clarence LeRoy Hills, son of John K. and Sarah A. (Moss) Hills, aged 42 y. 6 m.
- June 21. Clarissa Ann, widow of Benjamin Glazier and dau. of Jacob and Sophia (Wildes) Towne, aged 85 y. 7 m. 8 d.
- July 10. Enos Fuller, son of Benjamin and Esther (Wilkins) Fuller, aged 56 y. 11 m. 21 d.
- Sept. 29. — Fuller, son of Benjamin W. and Lucy R. (Pingree) Fuller, aged 1 m. 14 d.
- Oct. 1. John H. Potter, son of John and Harriet (Nourse) Potter, aged 78 y. 7 m. 8 d.
- Oct. 10. William Henry Munday, son of William and Mary (Moore) Munday, aged 71 y. 4 m. 1 d.
- Oct. 18. Sarah, widow of John Smith and dau. of Timothy and Judith (Shaw) Phillips, aged 85 y. 3 m. 23 d.
- Oct. 30. Mary Ann, widow of John Capen Balch and dau. of Jacob and Rebecca (Phillips) Collins, aged 94 y. 2 m. 5 d.
- Nov. 13. Francis Peabody, son of Stephen and Olive (Bancroft) Peabody, aged 86 y. 1 m. 9 d.
- Dec. 21. John Andrew Peterson, son of Andrew and Priscilla (Patterson) Peterson, aged 67 y. 11 m. 13 d.

Deaths in other places, Interment in Topsfield.

1901.

- Jan. 2. Israel Adams, died at New York, aged 65 y.
- Jan. 9. Louisa Horace, died at Sharon, Mass., aged 85 y. 7 m.
- Jan. 29. Ernest G. Fuller, died at Danvers, Mass., aged 3 m. 14 d.
- Feb. 9. Julia A. Place, died at Somerville, Mass., aged 69 y. 4 m. 16 d.
- July 9. Moses W. Dodd, died at Beverly, Mass., aged 41 y.
- Aug. 17. Joanna Pamela Cummings, died at Berwick, Me., aged 59 y. 10 m.
- Sept. 21. Emma F. Taylor, died at Lynn, Mass., aged 44 y. 7 d.
- Oct. 24. William T. Dinsmore, died at Lynn, Mass., aged 62 y. 3 m.
- Nov. 8. Susan E. Perkins, died at Gloucester, Mass., aged 71 y. 4 m. 5 d.
- Dec. 15. Norman McLoud, son of Rev. Anson and Jane C. McLoud, died at Boston, Mass., aged 45 y. 3 m. 26 d.

DEATHS (Continued)

Abbie E. wife of Robert Foss and dau. of John and Hannah M.
(Story) Whipple, aged 40 y. 10 m.
Charles Leroy Hill, son of John K. and Sarah A. (Gross) Hill,
aged 42 y. 6 m.
Charlotte Ann, widow of Benjamin Claver and dau. of Jacob and So-
phia (Whipple) Towne, aged 67 y. 7 m. 8 d.
Ernest Fisher, son of Benjamin and Esther (Whipple) Fisher, aged
26 y. 11 m. 21 d.
— Fisher, son of Benjamin W. and Lucy H. (Foster) Fisher,
aged 1 m. 14 d.
John H. Potter, son of John and Harriet (Nourse) Potter, aged 76 y.
7 m. 8 d.
William Henry Moody, son of William and Mary (Wheeler) Moody,
aged 71 y. 4 m. 1 d.
Sarah, widow of John Smith and dau. of John (Shaw) Smith,
aged 82 y. 3 m. 27 d.
Mary Ann, widow of John Edgar Ball and dau. of Jacob and
Rebecca (Phillips) Collins, aged 72 y. 2 m. 7 d.
Francis Paschall, son of Stephen and Emily (Kendall) Paschall, aged
26 y. 1 m. 9 d.
John Andrew Peterson, son of Andrew and Phebe (Patterson) Peterson,
aged 67 y. 11 m. 13 d.

Deaths in other places, returned to town:

Israel Adams, died at New York, aged 67 y.
Louisa Horner, died at Sharon, Mass., aged 82 y. 7 m.
Ernest C. Fisher, died at Lawrence, Mass., aged 7 m. 14 d.
Jesse A. Place, died at Somerville, Mass., aged 69 y. 4 m. 10 d.
Moses W. Booth, died at Beverly, Mass., aged 41 y.
Louisa Pamela Cummings, died at Haverhill, Mass., aged 70 y. 10 m.
Lemuel F. Taylor, died at Lynn, Mass., aged 47 y. 7 d.
William T. Dismore, died at Lynn, Mass., aged 62 y. 3 m.
Susan E. Perkins, died at Gloucester, Mass., aged 71 y. 4 m. 2 d.
Norman Meland, son of Rev. Aaron and Jane C. Meland, died at
Boston, Mass., aged 45 y. 7 m. 26 d.

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V. 6-7

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN TOPSFIELD IN 1901.

- March 21. The Town Farm sold to Dr. H. F. Sears, of Boston, for \$9000.00.
- March 25. A Village Improvement Society formed; Albert A. Conant, President.
- May 6. Melville W. Stone, of Reading, chosen Superintendent of Schools, for the school district of Topsfield, Boxford, Middleton and Reading.
- June 24. The street locations in Topsfield for the Essex County Street Railway were surveyed and staked out.
- June 21. Lighted chandelier in the Town Hall, fell to the floor soon after the close of the High School reception. Fire extinguished by chemicals; damage \$25.00.
- Aug. 16. Proceedings at the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the incorporation of the town, published and placed on sale.
- Sept. 19. McKinley Memorial Services at the Town Hall. Business suspended during the day.
- Sept. 28. Dr. Byron Sanborn, of Boston, began to practice medicine in town.
- Oct. 12. "The Valley Road" completed and opened to public travel.
- Oct. 17. A 6-inch artesian well at the Dr. H. F. Sears estate, abandoned at a depth of 714 feet, the flow of water being but six gallons per minute.
- Nov. 28. The residence of Thomas W. Peirce (the Ray farm) damaged by fire shortly after midnight; loss \$500.

BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1901.

- Dr. H. F. Sears, Perkins street, residence, farm-house, stable, barn, and out-buildings.
- Josiah P. Perkins, Central street, dwelling-house and stable.
- Daniel O. Earle, Asbury Grove street, farm-house.
- Frank L. Gould, Haverhill street, dwelling-house.
- Thomas W. Peirce, off Boston street, the "Ray" farm-house extensively remodeled; the old barn remodeled and a large stable added.
- Gilbert B. Balch, Main street, residence remodeled.
- Otto E. Lake, Main street, old B. & M. Railroad station remodeled into a dwelling-house.
- Percy Chase, Prospect street, stable.

EDITORIAL NOTE. The article on "Buildings in Topsfield", alluded to on page 89, will be printed in the next volume of the Historical Collections.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN TOPSFIELD IN 1901

- March 31 The Town Farm sold to Dr. H. F. Sears of Boston for \$30,000.
 March 27 A Village Improvement Society formed. Albert A. Conant, President.
 May 6 Melville W. Stone, of Reading, chosen Superintendent of Schools for the school district of Topsfield, Boston, Middleton and Reading.
 June 24 The route locations in Topsfield for the Essex County Street Railway were surveyed and staked out.
 June 21 Lighted candles for the Town Hall fell to the floor soon after the close of the High School reception. The extinguished by chemicals; damage \$25.00.
 Aug. 16 Proceedings at the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the incorporation of the town, published and placed on sale.
 Sept. 19 McKinstry Memorial Services at the Town Hall. Business suspended during the day.
 Sept. 23 Dr. Byron Sanderson of Boston, began to practice medicine in town.
 Oct. 12 "The Valley Ranch," completed and opened to public travel.
 Oct. 17 A ditch excavation well at the Dr. H. F. Sears was abandoned at a depth of 24 feet, the flow of water being too copious for minute.
 Nov. 23 The residence of Thomas W. [unclear] damaged by fire shortly after midnight.

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V. 6-7

BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE YEAR 1901

- Dr. H. F. Sears, Parkside street, residence, farm-house, stable, barn, and out-buildings.
 Joseph F. Perkins, Central street, dwelling-house and stable.
 Daniel O. Kralik, Ashbury Grove street, farm-house.
 Frank E. Gould, Liverhill street, dwelling-house.
 Thomas W. Perce, off Boston street, the "new" farm-house, extensively remodelled; the old barn remodelled and a large stable added.
 Gilbert B. Hatch, Main street, residence remodelled.
 Otto E. Lake, Main street, old H. & M. Railroad station remodelled into a dwelling-house.
 Percy Chase, Prospect street, stable.

EDITORIAL NOTE: The article on "Buildings in Topsfield," alluded to on page 82, will be printed in the next volume of the Historical Collection.

